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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

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ARMED FORCES

CHILDREN, COMRADES ON LIFE, TIMES OF D. F. USTINOV

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 1 Mar 85 p 4

[Article compiled by V. Belyayev: "People's Commissar Ustinov -- From Private to Marshal"]

[Text] During the war he did not command subunits in the active army and did not participate in the development of strategic operations which decided the outcome of the battle against Hitler's fascism for the benefit of the peoples of Europe. But his efforts and his work greatly helped to confirm the glory of Russian weapons and the Russian and Soviet soldier in that harsh war. The combat services of Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov were recognized with the Order of Suvorov 1st Class and the Order of Kutuzov 1st Class, which were awarded to army and front commanders. And this was natural, because People's Commissar for Armaments D. F. Ustinov led an army of those whose labor at the metallurgical furnaces and lathes ensured the success of military labor. In the chronicle of the history of victory, his name rightly stands along with those of the most prominent military leaders.

"How did People's Commissar D. F. Ustinov work?" "Who Was He?" We asked these questions of Nikolay Vasil'yevich Kocherygin, his comrade in the years of study at the Moscow Higher Technical School and Leningrad Military Mechanical Institute; Hero of Socialist Labor Vladimir Nikolayevich Novikov, during the war years the USSR deputy people's commissar for armaments; Boris Abramovich Khazanov, defense industry veteran; Igor' Fedorovich Dmitriyev, CPSU Central Committee section chief; Col Gen Igor' Vyacheslavovich Illarionov, who worked together with D. F. Ustinov for many years; Ivan Nikolayevich Platonov, the people's commissar's driver during 1941-1945; Vera Dmitriyevna Ustinova, honored artist of the RSFSR and teacher at Moscow State Conservatory; Nikolay Dmitriyevich Ustinov, Hero of Socialist Labor, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences. This is what they said.

ON THE EVE OF THE WAR

N. V. Kocherygin:

"In 1929 the Military Mechanical Department opened at Leningrad Polytechnical Institute. A little later it was transformed into an independent institute which was to train technicians and weapons designers. Second and third year students from a number of VUZes were sent to study there. For example, an entire group was transferred from the Moscow Higher Technical School, where Dmitriy Fedorovich and I were studying.

"We respected Ustinov a great deal. Why? For his firm character and fairness, his sociability, wit and high principles, his tremendous love of and capacity for work, and his complete dislike of cramming for grades. Of course, he was not the only one with these traits, but he displayed them, if it can be so stated, more consistently and definitely. And the organizational abilities and skill of this light-haired young man of just over 20 years were exceptional. No one could compare with him. Everyone was convinced of this when we were in Leningrad. The new institute was still experiencing a period of adjustment. Many training aids were lacking. We set about to make them ourselves, and it was largely to the credit of student Ustinov that this work was accomplished well and quickly. The instructors noticed Dmitriy Fedorovich's organizational talent. One of them, Krasovskiy by name, who taught us production organization, once said: 'You, Ustinov, can become people's commissar.'"

N. D. Ustinov:

"No one guided Father's upbringing except life itself, which was difficult and work-filled. One could say that he was from peasant origins, although he was born in Samara into a worker's family. But harsh necessity drove his parents there; previously they had lived in a village. Father was not yet 11 when he began to work, and 14 when he entered the ChON [Special Purpose Units, 1918-1924] in Samarkand and fought against the Basmachi. In Summer 1923 he joined the 12th Turkestan Rifle Regiment as a volunteer. The chief of staff of this regiment was Vasily Danilovich Sokolovskiy, later marshal of the Soviet Union. True, Father was already demobilized in the Fall. He settled with our grandmother, Yefrosin'ya Martynovna in the city of Makar'yev in Ivanovo-Voznesensk Province. There was a vocational-technical school in Makar'yev where the pupils studied very seriously. I say this, for Father even very recently -- I myself saw this -- could not only, for example, machine a part or mill it, but sensed by sound whether or not the lathe was working properly."

B. A. Khazanov:

"Probably it was then that Dmitriy Fedorovich not only became acquainted with equipment, but became intimately familiar with it and learned to understand what people could require of it, and what it could require from people. Before he was named director of the Bolshevik factory in Leningrad in 1938, the enterprise regularly missed its state targets. Ustinov undertook reconstruction from the very beginning. All the shops were reorganized and a

TETs [Heat and Electric Power Plant] using pulverized fuel was built which was unique for its time. Academician Abram Fedorovich Ioffe and scientists from the Leningrad Polytechnical Institute helped to develop an apparatus for obtaining acetylene not from carbide, but from petroleum residue. At the time I was working in the People's Commissariat for Armaments and frequently visited Bolshevik. Ustinov worked very purposefully so that the factory would overcome its backwardness. He became the soul of the collective of the enterprise, which already in 1939 was awarded the Order of Lenin."

V. D. Ustinova:

"On one occasion Father recalled a story which took place at Bolshevik. He was completing his first year as director. Reconstruction was reconstruction, but it was necessary to fulfill the plan target. At the same time it was becoming clear that there literally were not enough days to do so. He gathered the workers of the most important shop together, spoke with them, and himself saw that the people were extremely tired and could no longer work at full capacity. What could be done? Then father invited an orchestra to the factory, which played a variety of lively music during all the shifts. And for the first time in a number of years the target was met! 'You know,' Father said, 'Suvorov once remarked that good music redoubles the strength of the Army...'"

DURING THE MOST DIFFICULT MONTHS

V. N. Novikov:

"I think that the most difficult period of the war was August through November of 1941.

"I will give this example. Just before the war the Maxim machinegun was withdrawn from production. And the Degtyarev machinegun which was to replace it for some reason did not come right away. The factory where it was decided to renew production of the Maxim machinegun was evacuated and moved to practically an empty field. So here you have it. Ustinov spent a week and a half there. Dmitriy Fedorovich was given a cot in a shop where he slept no more than three or four hours a night, as he helped the factory workers get production on its feet.

"It might be asked whether it was necessary for the people's commissar himself to set up the manufacturing even of this very important item. There is, one might say, a staff and specialists. Is it necessary, figuratively speaking, for a division commander to control the operations of a platoon? But I put the question differently. What if, among all the combat effective units, this platoon was on the most important axis?

"Then the division commander would be obligated to take command himself. At that moment, I dare say, precisely such a situation had occurred. Some enterprises were in echelons and were moving to the east, others were being loaded onto rail cars and were on platforms, still others were still arranging their equipment in new areas in Siberia and the Urals. This is why Ustinov was in the 'platoon.'"

"But this in no way meant that the factories which were 'on wheels' fell from the sphere of his influence. Dmitriy Fedorovich personally checked the evacuation schedule of every shop in all enterprises and monitored how these schedules were being followed.

"I recall that a large Moscow factory was evacuated. It produced optical sights for tanks, without which they, understandably, aren't much good. The director asked the people's commissar: 'What about the sights?' 'In the first place, you prepare a stockpile for polishing...'. 'But we will not be able to polish the lenses before we leave, and when we get there time will be needed to set up the equipment.' 'And, in the second place, organize the polishing right in the rail cars.' 'Without electricity?' 'It will be necessary to turn the lathes by hand.' And while the train was enroute the workers turned the lathe pulleys by hand. Afterward the sights began to be assembled almost from the day of arrival."

I. F. Dmitriyev:

"In Fall 1941 the front was badly in need of antitank guns. At that time their mass production was not yet organized. On order of Ustinov, several factories of purely peacetime use, the need for which had then, naturally lessened, were transferred to the People's Commissariat for Armaments. I worked as a deputy section chief in the People's Commissariat. I remember that the people's commissar summoned me on the 10th or 12 of October and said: 'Here are the drawings for the Simonov antitank gun. Tomorrow fly with them to the tractor spare parts factory. Organize production, having in mind that in December it will be necessary to give...' And he named such a figure that I was struck dumb. 'This,' I answered, 'no doubt will not be met. There is no equipment there.' 'Did you understand me, Igor?'' 'I understood.' Then fly and organize.' Then he got a note pad from his desk, on the pages of which was printed at the top in blue: USSR People's Commissar for Armaments. The pages were blank, but at the bottom of each was the signature, 'Ustinov.' 'Here,' he said, 'a note pad to help you. Send any requirements to whomever and wherever. Just don't forget from whom you asked what. The local party obkom and the others are behind you.' I flew. From Moscow Dmitriy Fedorovich watched constantly how things were going and helped us to obtain equipment which we simply could not get. After three weeks he himself appeared. It already seemed to us that everything was taking shape well, but he noticed such things which were not apparent even to those who spent the night in the factory. We did not escape serious words from him. But we organized production. Later I understood that with his 'maneuver' at the spare parts factory we saved a tremendous amount of time for production of that needed weapon."

WITH THE WORKERS, BY FIRST NAME AND PATRONYMIC

V. I. Novikov:

"I would put development and production of the light 152 mm D-1 howitzer among the absolute records. When on 12 April 1943 the GKO [State Defense Committee]

adopted a decree about its production, there were no drawings, only an idea. But already on 30 April the factory sent the first five howitzers to the front. Dmitriy Fedorovich, being an outstanding designer, proposed a change during development of the weapon which made the process more technologically sound and, consequently, also less labor intensive."

I. V. Illarionov:

"This meant that less time was needed to manufacture one gun and that it became easier for people. And Dmitriy Fedorovich always thought about them. For example, after the war it was necessary to create essentially a new branch of industry to accomplish one major program. In this case they might have proceeded, as it is called, 'from nought.' In general this is almost always how it is done. But then it is necessary to bring in workers from somewhere, taking them from their familiar places. And this is always an uncomfortable feeling for people. Yes, and considerable time passes until they are all blended into a collective. Ustinov proceeded differently. At that moment several defense industry ministries seemingly lost their importance. Then, at the initiative of Dmitriy Fedorovich a plan for their restructuring was drawn up and accomplished, which took into account the absolute requirement: preserve the backbone of cadres."

V. I. Novikov:

"He valued people. He knew not only, say, factory directors, chief engineers and production supervisors, but also shop chiefs and many workers by first name and patronymic. Everyday in the people's commissariat there was a review of the previous day's work. Ustinov examined the manufacturing of each product, remembering by heart its code, designation and in which shop of which factory it was produced. In general he had an exceptional memory. He knew the number of parts produced, both monthly totals and daily output. If things weren't going well with some part and the people's commissariat employees could not give a satisfactory answer about the reasons for the delay, he immediately phoned the shop chief. But since the head of the people's commissariat held the whole picture of the work both of the branch and the particular enterprise, no one at any level tried to trick him or make reference to any 'objective' causes."

I. V. Illarionov:

"Ustinov could not stand technological backwardness. Those who proposed something new he called 'disturbers of the peace.' 'But such disturbers are necessary,' he indicated. 'It is necessary not to brush them aside, but to help them if that which they propose is worthwhile. It is difficult for new things to make their way by themselves. Adherence to the familiar is too great, and people are wary of new things.'"

"To my recollection, Dmitriy Fedorovich did not overlook a single valuable idea, no matter how fantastic it seemed. He believed that it was a leader's primary duty constantly to facilitate the implementation of everything new and valuable in science and technology. Take just the history of rotor lines, proposed at the end of the war by then unknown designer, now academician Lev

Nikolayevich Koshkin. His concept was not taken seriously at the factory where he worked."

I. F. Dmitriyev:

"Not only at the factory. When Ustinov submitted Koshkin's ideas for discussion at the people's commissariat, prominent specialists, enterprise representatives and responsible workers unanimously rejected it, stating that Koshkin either 'did not take into account sufficiently' or 'underrated the importance of' the fact that the tolerance necessary for the part would not exist. They 'performed a funeral service' of the first rank over the author. Dmitriy Fedorovich dismissed everyone and asked Koshkin what he needed to make a model of the line, 'because we will convince no one on our fingers.' When the line worked, Ustinov again gathered everyone together who had been present the last time. Koshkin reported about the results and Ustinov asked: 'Well, and how should we proceed now, comrades?' How the others talked! 'Dmitriy Fedorovich, we did not take it into account sufficiently, we underrated it, although, of course, refinement is still needed...' In short, Lev Nikolayevich was named chief designer, created a special design bureau for rotor lines, and the work went along well. In general Dmitriy Fedorovich also actively helped those who wanted and were able to work, distinguishing them at first glance..., no, from their first actions."

N. V. Kocherygin:

"Ustinov was able to support people in a difficult moment. Here is an example. I Summer 1941 I worked in one of the factories near Moscow. One night an enemy aircraft flew over us and dropped its supply of bombs which, I think, our air defense troops and fighters did not allow it to drop on Moscow. The tool shop was damaged and there were large craters in the yard. Three people were killed and several were seriously shell-shocked. Barely two months before, strictly peacetime products were manufactured here and, therefore, the psychological shock to the workers was rather great. Dmitriy Fedorovich came in the morning. He walked about the area, looked at how the shops were equipped and advised what to restore first. Then he talked with the workers. He asked them to keep their spirits up. He did not hide that it was difficult at the front, but he stated that it was thus all the more necessary to help the front. He talked, to put it briefly, like a real Bolshevik agitator. As a matter of fact he was one his whole life."

"Attentive to people, Dmitriy Fedorovich did not like leaders who were not so attentive. Once he went to a factory which manufactured optical equipment. The director met him, and at the gates was a huge puddle where there were bricks which people used to jump over the puddle. Ustinov acted as though he did not see all this. He greeted the director, talked with him affably, walked about in the puddle and stopped where it was a bit deeper, continuing to talk about something. The director, who had ankle boots on shifted from one foot to the other but was not able to leave -- the people's commissar had come! Only after a good 'halt' in the puddle did Ustinov ask: 'By the way, what do you plan to do about this puddle?' And no references to the difficulties of wartime were justification as far as Dmitriy Fedorovich was concerned for inattention to people, especially to workers. In such cases he was very strict."

I. V. Illarionov:

"Dmitriy Fedorovich had yet another amazing ability: He always determined exactly that place to work on in order to work out the whole matter. In this he did not try to do everything at once, but took up two or three problems intensively, believing that others should work on the rest. Sometimes he invited a coworker for a talk and asked: 'What are you doing?' The person would start to enumerate this, that and the other thing, and Ustinov would say: 'Well...! You are doing so many things that you can't handle them. Pay attention to this problem (he named it); it is now the most important. Set the others aside.' He controlled things most seriously. He watched how the development of a system was proceeding and how its production was being organized. A system was tested and entered the inventory. But he was also interested in how it was working in the troop units and whether there were any shortcomings. He sent the designers to the military units."

IF THE INTERESTS OF THE CAUSE DEMANDED

V. N. Novikov:

"Even Dmitriy Fedorovich made some mistakes, but then he devoted all his efforts and acted boldly, in order... Take this fact, for example.

"We were developing the 85 mm gun which later went on the T-34 tank. We began to test it for 'working life,' and everything was so good that the Main Artillery Administration along with the party committee, not waiting until we shot the required number of rounds, prepared a report to the GKO. 'The new gun is ready!' In a hurry, Ustinov of course also signed the paper. The GKO instructed: put the weapon in production in two months. Here it broke apart. How could it be? Nikolay Dmitriyevich Yakovlev, chief of the GAU [Main Artillery Administration] reported to Stalin, stating that it was not necessary to stretch out the period established by the GKO. Ustinov guaranteed this. He flew to the factory immediately after the trouble. There he ordered mass production of those parts for which no one, including himself, doubted the reliability, and along with the designers and technicians began painstakingly to check the article which had broken. Time was counted in hours. Dmitriy Fedorovich looked at how the drawings were prepared, checked their quality and observed how the bad part was made. Only when he was sure that from a design and technological point of view everything was in order did he return to Moscow. The gun passed the tests. The GKO order was fulfilled in the established period of time.

"He was undeniably bold. Here is an example: Things were not going well with the 37 mm aviation gun of Boris Gavrilovich Shpital'niy, who enjoyed particular authority with Stalin. It had such serious design flaws that after firing the rounds began to somersault. We were not able to change anything without the personal permission of the designer, and he did not give this permission. Another gun was more successful, and weighed 20 percent less, which, you understand, is not unimportant in aviation. Its designer was

Aleksandr Emmanuilovich Nudel'man. I phoned Dmitriy Fedorovich from the factory and reported the situation. Without a moment's hesitation he said: 'Begin the Nudel'man gun,' although Stalin ordered that the planes be armed namely with the Shpital'niy gun. But the interests of the cause required another decision and Ustinov made it without hesitation."

I. F. Dmitriyev:

"The following incident occurred at the factory where we were organizing production of antitank guns. The director, who was left over from the previous department, ran away. One evening he ordered his assistant to ready two automobiles, after forbidding him from talking with anyone, especially us, and drove away to the east. I phoned Ustinov and reported: 'There is no director.' 'Well and so what?' 'What do you mean so what? There is no director!' 'Sign what is necessary for the director yourself.' 'OK, I will, of course, sign for him, but a director is needed just the same.' 'All right, I will think about it a little. Although, wait a minute. Do you know Charskiy?' 'I know him.' 'Can he make a director?' 'There is no doubt of that!' 'But, you see, he is not now available.' 'I know.' 'Then here is what to do. In a day or two they will summon you. Take Charskiy with you, let him rest, and I will send the order.' I don't know at what level Ustinov coordinated, but soon Fedor Kapitonovich Charskiy, who had previously headed a factory in our branch, again became an outstanding director here."

HE WAS CAPABLE OF EVERYTHING

V. D. Ustinova:

"Father was, how can I say it, a life-disseminating person, if there is such a word. When he was happy about something he called upon everyone to share his happiness."

N. D. Ustinov:

"He related toward Vera and the grandchildren with remarkable tenderness, and he was simply chivalrous toward our mother. I can choose no other word. He was very obedient to our grandmother, Varvara Aleksandrovna. Only she could make him, for example, take his medicine when he had tonsillitis."

V. D. Ustinova:

"Father never showed, either with words or appearance, if something was not right at work."

I. N. Platonov:

"And I always noticed this. There was, it is true, a reliable means of making the people's commissar's spirit light up: Give him the steering wheel. He loved to drive and did so in classic style. Only he raced so! It was even scary to me, but Dmitriy Fedorovich just chuckled and said that I had cold feet."

N. D. Ustinov:

"One day this almost ended up badly. On 1 May 1943 he was driving a motorcycle and got into an accident on Pervaya Meshchanskaya Street. He left the hospital only after three months, and on the next day Stalin summoned him. Father talked about that visit in this way.

"Besides Stalin, members of the GKO were in the office. Father, trying to hold his cane a bit less noticeably, greeted Stalin and the others. Stalin asked: 'Comrade Ustinov, do you know that there is a war on?' Father, in his own words, was stupefied by this question. 'I know, Comrade Stalin,' he answered, not understanding what was up. 'You as a people's commissar represent specific state property. And do you know that those who damage state property in wartime are punished?' Father answered: 'I know Comrade Stalin.' He said this and, as he later recalled, prepared himself for something very bad. 'Well, we will punish you. What should we do comrades?' Stalin turned to those in his office. Everyone was silent. No one dared to suggest anything. The pause dragged out. Suddenly Andrey Aleksandrovich Zhdanov said: 'Comrade Stalin! Let's give Ustinov a new motorcycle.' Everyone burst out laughing and the matter ended. Only Stalin on parting said just the same: 'If you, Comrade Ustinov, sit on a motorcycle again before the end of the war, we will have a different kind of talk.' Thus Father parted with the motorcycle until the victory. It is true that the accident did not interfere with him working in the hospital. Already on the following day telephones were set up in his ward and people's commissariat employees came with reports and documents. The doctors were not able to shorten his work day even a little."

V. N. Novikov:

"He had an uncommon ability to work. I would say he had a capacity for work not characteristic of people. It is even hard to believe. During the war he arrived at the people's commissariat by 10 a.m. He worked until 6 p.m. 'without stopping.' From 6 until 9 he took a break. Then again went to the commissariat. He left no earlier than 4 or 5 a.m. It is true that at that time working at night was typical. But even after the war, until the last days, he did not leave his office before 11 p.m."

I. N. Platonov:

"He slept, if it could be called that, three hours in all. I would drive him home, arriving at 5:30 a.m. and he would say: 'Vanya, wake me at 9 on the dot.' His wife, Taisiya Alekseyevna, and the children had been evacuated. I would come at 9 and he would say: 'Don't leave, sit here next to me or else I'll fall asleep.' And we would immediately dash off farther. To ranges, to factories. We drove a lot, often at night, and did not turn on the lights due to light discipline. He was always in motion. His personal life-style was incredibly simple!"

V. D. Ustinov:

"At our home it was never such that any guests felt: Here lives a high government official. Once in a while my friends asked: 'Can I phone you? Will Dmitriy Fedorovich be displeased? Perhaps the phone disturbs him?' But Father was always happy if friends and acquaintances came to visit my brother and I. Sometimes he joined us, and at such times was never unwanted. To the contrary, it was more interesting."

I. N. Platonov:

"He greatly loved opera. The radio in the vehicle was always turned on. But in working with him, don't stand around wide eyed: He was demanding, strict and serious. Until this day I don't understand how he could do everything!"

N. D. Ustinov:

"Father loved one parable, which he heard from someone while still in his youth. Here it is.

"A man is walking by a construction project. He sees three men pushing wheelbarrows of sand. The first is walking all hunched over. The second has such an expression on his face as though it were not sand but venomous snakes in the wheelbarrow. The third is singing songs! The bypasser asks: 'What are you doing?' The first answers angrily: 'What, are you blind? I'm pushing a wheelbarrow!' The second barks out: 'Making a living.' But the third says with pride: 'We are building a palace!'

"Father was that third man."

BIOLOGICAL FACTS

Early Period. He was born on 30 October 1908 in Samara (now Kuybyshev) into a worker's family. From 1922 he was a volunteer in the ChON and later in the 12th Turkestan Rifle Regiment. He completed the Makar'yev Vocational-Technical School and obtained qualification as a metal worker. He worked at the Balakhna Paper and Pulp Combine (Gorkiy Oblast) and then at the Zaryad'ye Factory (in Ivanovo). In 1934 he completed the Leningrad Military Mechanical Institute.

Party membership. He was a member of the CPSU from 1927. He was elected a member of the Volodarsk Party Raykom (Leningrad). He was elected a member of the CPSU Central Committee at the 19th, 20th and 22d through 26th CPSU Congresses. In 1965-1966 he was a candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Presidium. From 1966-1976 he was a candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and from 1976 on was a member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

Work. From 1934-1937 he was an engineer in the Artillery Scientific Research Naval Institute. From 1937-1941 he was at the Leningrad Factory, Bolshevik (formerly Obukhovskiy), where he was in turn: design engineer, chief of the maintenance and testing buro, deputy chief designer and factory director. From 1941-1946 he was USSR people's commissar for armaments. From 1946-1953

-- USSR minister of armaments. From 1953-1957 -- USSR minister of the defense industry. From 1957-1963 -- deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. From 1963-1965 -- first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the High Council of the USSR Economy. From 1965-1976 -- CPSU Central Committee secretary. From April 1976 on -- USSR Minister of Defense.

From 1944 -- Col Gen; April - July 1976 -- Gen Army. From 30 July 1976 -- Marshal of the Soviet Union.

Participation in Soviets. Elected deputy of the Leningrad City Soviet.

Deputy to the 2d and 4th through 11th USSR Supreme Soviets; deputy to the 7th-10th RSFSR Supreme Soviets.

Awards. Hero of the Soviet Union. Twice Hero of Socialist Labor. Awarded 11 Orders of Lenin; Order of Suvorov 1st Class; Order of Kutuzov 1st Class; Laureate of the Lenin Prize (1982) and USSR State Prizes (1953 and 1983).

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ARMED FORCES

RESULTS OF 1984 SOCIALIST COMPETITION REVIEWED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Feb 85 p 1

[Unsigned article: "Shock Labor for the Homeland"]

[Text] The USSR Ministry of Defense and the Main Political Administration of the Soviet Army and Navy, jointly with the central committee of the construction and construction materials industry workers' trade union, have tallied the results of socialist competition among military construction personnel in 1984.

Implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, military construction workers and employees of industrial enterprises, quartering organs, design and surveying organizations and USSR Ministry of Defense institutions made a worthy contribution to the struggle of the Soviet people to strengthen the economic and defense might of our homeland. The state plan for capital construction and specific tasks and socialist obligations undertaken by workers in military construction projects were fulfilled: in terms of putting fixed capital into operation -- by 101.3 percent; overall area of residential housing -- by 102.7 percent; quantity of construction and assembly work -- by 100.1 percent. Labor productivity improved 4.1 percent, as compared to the planned 3.4 percent. The task of reducing the production cost of construction and assembly projects by 0.6 percent was overfulfilled.

The highest production indices were achieved by the initiators of socialist competition for 1984, the construction personnel of the Leningrad Military District and their competitors, the construction personnel of the Moscow Military District. The collectives of the construction administrations of the Odessa and Belorussian military districts, and the organizations led by comrades V. Bezmenov, E. Borisov, A. Gorovatskiy, G. Glazunov, M. Gromenko, V. Katunin, A. Koryt'ko, L. Khizhnyak and F. Yastin worked rhythmically and confidently fulfilled the plan.

The construction administrations of the North Caucasus, Far Eastern, Carpathian, Kiev and Turkestan military districts, the Baltic Fleet, the Moscow Air Defense District, and the organizations led by comrades A. Kurakov, I. Kiziyev, F. Renich, Yu. Rossomakhov, R. Chervyakov, as well as the enterprises headed by comrades V. Gerasimov, G. Golubev, V. Deyneko,

S. Lekhovitskiy, S. Zakitnyy, L. Nekrasov, V. Ponomarev, S. Puzyrev and V. Flerov successfully fulfilled their tasks according to the main production and economic indices.

Victors in socialist competition among military designers and surveyors were the collectives led by comrades K. Bystrov, V. Volkovskiy and V. Manoylin.

The best results in 1984 were achieved by construction personnel of:

-- The Odessa Military District in competition with those of the North Caucasus Military District;

-- The Belorussian Military District in competition with those of the Baltic Military District;

-- The Turkestan Military District in competition with those of the Central Asian Military district;

-- The Moscow Air Defense District in competition with those of the Transcaucasus Military District;

-- The Volga Military District in competition with those of the Ural and Siberian military districts;

-- The Far East Military District in competition with those of the Trans-Baykal Military District;

--The Northern Fleet in competition with those of the Pacific Fleet;

--The Baltic Fleet in competition with those of the Black Sea Fleet.

At the same time, last year the collectives of construction administrations in the Baltic and Trans-Baykal military districts, the Pacific and Black Sea fleets, as well as the organizations led by comrades V. Bozhko, A. Borisenko, G.Volynskiy, V. Dovbnya, V. Donskov, I. Igoshev and Yu. Subbotin did not meet their established goals and socialist obligations according to some indices. Low results were demonstrated by construction personnel in the Trans-Caucasus and Ural military districts and in organizations headed by comrades B. Brauer, N. Gurov, V. Kenzhibayev, G. Moyseyenko, N. Nebol'sin, V. Pal'tsev and P. Fedchenko, as well as the collectives of enterprises led by comrades V. Bazayev, A. Bakalo, V. Sergeyev and A. Serov.

The decisions of the October 1984 CPSU Central Committee plenum, the speech of Comrade K. U. Chernenko, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, at the 15 November 1984 CPSU Central Committee Politburo session, and the active preparations underway in the country for the 27th CPSU Congress and the 40th Anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War are evoking new political and labor enthusiasm among military construction personnel. The party's call to complete the five-year plan [FYP] successfully, accelerate intensification of the economy and work two days per year using materials, raw materials and fuel which have been economized has been received by personnel in military

construction units, organizations and enterprises as a fighting program of action. This was vividly expressed within the framework of socialist competition under the slogan, "To the 40th Anniversary of the Great Victory and the 27th CPSU Congress -- Our Selfless Shock labor!" established in the concluding year of the FYP at the initiative of the military construction organization led by Col E. Borisov. The current scales of capital construction and the variety and complexity of the tasks facing military construction personnel this year demand further concentration of the efforts of commanders, political organs, engineer-technical workers and party, trade union and komsomol organizations toward all-round improvement of production effectiveness and its qualitative indices, raising labor productivity, reducing construction production cost and extensively introducing the achievements of scientific and technical progress into production.

It is necessary to disseminate leading experience more actively; contribute to the acceptance of counterplans; continue to create comprehensive and multi-stage brigades working on unified orders and demonstrate party concern for improving the whole system of planning and management of capital construction, effective economic management and fundamental improvement of the organization and methods of training cadres.

A further increase in the responsibility of supervisory command-political and engineer-technical cadres for the strict observance of military, labor and production discipline is required.

The USSR Ministry of Defense, Main Political Administration of the Soviet Army and Navy and the central committee of the construction and construction materials industry workers' trade union express their firm confidence that the personnel of military construction units and employees of industrial enterprises, design and surveying organizations and institutions and barracks operating organizations, closely united around the Leninist party, will successfully fulfill the planned tasks and socialist obligations of the final year and the 11th FYP as a whole, greet the 27th CPSU Congress with high achievements and worthily mark the 40th Anniversary of the Great Victory and the 50th Anniversary of the Stakhanovite Movement.

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AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

PARTY WORK, IMPROVING TECHNICAL TRAINING

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 22, Nov 84 (signed to press 5 Nov 84) pp 59-62

[Article by Captain G. Demin, commander, air defense missile battalion: "A Special Responsibility"]

[Text] Our battalion is an air defense missile battalion. Its mission is to destroy fast moving, maneuvering enemy means of air attack. The subunit is equipped with complicated modern military equipment. Only a well trained specialist can operate it. And, understandably, I, the other officers and all communists in the subunit are required to devote a great deal of attention to solving the important task of improving the men's technical training.

I believe that some impression of how successfully we are accomplishing our work in this area is found in the facts and figures provided in the summary report by Major A. Maksimov, battalion party organization secretary. All eligible missilemen are class qualified. Eighty percent of the men are highly qualified specialists. In and of themselves these are not bad indices. But is it right to view them as the limit of military perfection? Might it have made the subunit's communists complacent? The electoral party meeting provided answers to these and other questions which bothered me and other communists in the battalion about improving the level of technical training of the troops.

The meeting took place soon after the battalion accomplished its field firing. Therefore, in assessing what had been done and the effectiveness of organizational and political work of communists aimed at improving the men's technical training, both Major Maksimov in his report and the other speakers referred with full justification, in my view, to the results of firing. All field training tasks had been accomplished with high marks. And what is especially gratifying is that communists contributed substantially to this success. During the firing and while preparing for it both their professional skill and organizational qualities were fully manifested. In evidence I will cite an example brought up at the meeting.

The "enemy," exploiting difficult weather conditions, was trying to break through to the defended object. His targets were flying at low altitudes. Operators from Captain Ye. Grishchenko's battery engaged one of them. Soon

the moment of firing came. Then the "enemy" used interference. "I don't see the target," came the operators' reports. Captain Grishchenko, instantly assessing the situation, gave the necessary orders. All the actions of this master of combat qualifications were precise and sure. The target was again locked on and at the given line was destroyed with the first missile.

I recall how people prepared for the examination for military readiness. A businesslike, elevated atmosphere reigned in the collective; everyone burned with the same desire -- to accomplish field firing with a high mark. But the communists understood that desire alone is not enough, and that what was needed was painstaking, intense preparation. How should people be mobilized to achieve the highest result? What steps needed to be taken? How could the technical training of the soldiers, the basis for the missileman's military skill, be improved? We talked about this at the scheduled party meeting. The discussion was businesslike and principled. The communists then noted that our technical training of the soldiers was not badly organized overall, but that there were also a number of unexploited opportunities. Let us say that not all officers are broadening their military-technical horizons; some are satisfied with old knowledge. The technical circle, the lessons for which were the responsibility of Sr Lt A. Amatun', functioned irregularly.

The meeting encouraged the communists to recognize still more thoroughly the responsibility placed upon us as armed defenders of the Homeland, under conditions of heightened military danger from the imperialists, and to draw appropriate conclusions from this for our practical activities. The essence of these conclusions boiled down to one thing. Members and candidate members of the party must set the tone in the struggle to improve combat readiness further and to prepare well for the firing.

A great deal of work was done to fulfill the decision made at the meeting. Captain Ye. Grishchenko, a CPSU member, helped young officers Ye. Petrov and N. Sadilov to organize technical training lessons. Another of the most experienced specialists, Captain A. Marychev, carried out a number of tutorials for operators on the most difficult technical questions. Party activists participated in preparing for and conducting the komsomol meeting in the subunit, at which measures to ensure exemplary performance by komsomol members were discussed. In short, the communists worked hard both in the period of preparing for firing and during its conduct. They directed people to achieve the goals outlined and inspired them by personal example. And the high end result was achieved largely owing to their efforts.

The vanguard role of party members and candidates in military training and their responsibility for raising the technical skill of the troops and for mastering the equipment are questions which were always within the field of vision of the battalion party organization. They were examined at party meetings and during talks carried out by leading communists with party members and candidates. Reports by communists were heard regularly about how they were enhancing their military technical knowledge and raising their class qualifications, and about what personal contribution they were making to improve the special training of the missilemen. All of this helped to create in the collective an atmosphere of demandingness and a critical approach to

assessing what had been accomplished. In confirmation of this one can cite a fact about which the communists spoke at the electoral meeting.

At the start of the summer training period I analyzed the situation with respect to technical training of the troops in the platoon commanded by Lieutenant V. Kozlov, a CPSU member. From his first days of service in the battalion the officer made a favorable impression. However, praise had apparently somewhat turned his head and he believed that he had already achieved a great deal and did not have to work his hardest at all. But, as we know, each new day entails new and more difficult tasks which cannot be accomplished successfully without increased efforts. It was apparent from everything that Kozlov did not recognize this. He was already preparing for his lessons and training without his former effort and at times conducted them poorly. And as a result the level of technical preparedness of the soldiers in his platoon declined.

I had a serious conversation with Kozlov. The young officer assured me that in the very near future the platoon would be in good shape. But a month later a test of the subunit took place. It showed that the situation regarding the technical preparation of Kozlov's subordinates had not improved.

I spoke with Major A. Maksimov, secretary of the party organization. We came to the opinion that it would be useful to hear a report of CPSU member Lieutenant V. Kozlov about his personal contribution to improving the specialist training of his subordinates. Before the meeting at which it was planned that his report would be heard we again studied attentively how the communist worked, at what he was successful, at what not successful and why.

I will not recount in detail how the hearing of the CPSU member's report went. I will say simply that it was a thorough discussion about the responsibility of communists for matters entrusted to them. Kozlov's poor preparation for lessons and the indulgences which he permitted in training launch crews were pointed out to him. Of course we took into account that the officer lacked experience. Therefore, we also gave him a good deal of useful advice and recommendations.

We certainly did not limit ourselves to this discussion at the meeting. Later we frequently analyzed how the officer-communist was eliminating the shortcomings in his work and improving his technical training. We also gave him practical assistance.

The effectiveness of these measures is indicated by the fact that Lieutenant Kozlov's platoon is today one of the best in the battalion in results of the last training year. It is noteworthy that the communist himself stated at the electoral meeting: "I always felt both the support of comrades and their insistent demands."

Yes, the party organization always tried to assess most strictly the activity of communists in its work and in the struggle for high technical preparedness of the missilemen. I already recalled that at one time better work of the battalion's technical circle was desired. The communists subjected its leader, candidate party member Sr Lt Anatin', to strict criticism at one of

their meetings. And the officer-communist came to the right conclusions from the criticism. The work of the technical circle noticeably improved.

Or take this fact. I recall that at a party meeting we discussed the tasks of communists stemming from the CPSU Central Committee decree, "On Further Improving Party Leadership of the Komsomol and Increasing its Role in Communist Upbringing of Young People," and the speech of Comrade K. U. Chernenko at the All-Army Conference of Secretaries of Komsomol Organizations. One of those who spoke stated roughly as follows: Party members and candidate members regularly attend komsomol meetings and speak before the young soldiers, so there is nothing to be particularly concerned about in this area of party work.

However, the communists did not agree with this opinion. Of course, they said, the battalion komsomol organization contributes to the struggle to improve the soldiers' technical training. There are contests for knowledge of equipment, publication of technical bulletins and talks by komsomol members who are outstanding specialists with the young soldiers. However, there is still much for the komsomol organization to do in order for all komsomol members to acquire high class category qualifications in their first year of service. On this score there were numerous discussions and calls sounded in the komsomol organization. But thus far the komsomol members are slow in shifting from words to deeds. At times they lack the ability to implement that which has been outlined and to concentrate their efforts on the main problems. And, of course, here assistance from their senior comrades, the communists, is required. Unfortunately, not all of them are deeply involved in how the komsomol member soldiers live and, in particular, in the problems of improving their technical skill.

Serious criticisms were made at the meeting against those party members and candidate members who were not participating actively in the work of the komsomol organization and were not assisting komsomol activists in their work.

The electoral meeting justly stressed that it is necessary to be more demanding toward communists. It is important to take care to create such a situation in the collective that each communist first of all is strict in assessing his own work: Am I doing everything in my area to improve the technical skill of the soldiers and to put into action unused reserves of improvement of military matters? And as far as reserves are concerned, it must be acknowledged forthrightly that some comrades do not consider them of great importance. Take, let us say, socialist competition to master military equipment and improve class qualifications. It has already long been proven in practice how effective a lever this is in improving the soldiers' military training. However, not all communist officers in the battalion take care to implement Leninist principles of socialist competition such as, in particular, publicity and the opportunity to repeat advanced experience. Take, for example, the battery where officer Ye. Petrov served. Here numerous highly qualified specialists have been trained. One of them is Jr Sgt P. Balakin. He is an excellent operator and is knowledgeable of the equipment. Of course, everyone in the battery knows this. But what is the essence of the advanced experience which this soldier possesses, and what should other operators in the subunit obtain for themselves from this experience? Already long ago the

communists in the battery should have generalized the experience of this top specialist and made it the property of all the soldiers. Moreover, they have a good example of this. A neighboring subunit ably propagandizes advanced military techniques, which greatly helps to improve the technical skills of the missilemen.

I believe that the party group is troubled by the situation which exists in the battery where officer Ye. Petrov served regarding the propagandizing of advanced experience. They are beginning here to strictly assess the work of party members and candidates directed at disseminating the experience of the best prepared specialists. In the final analysis the atmosphere of demandingness begins to form namely in the party group.

A communist is responsible for everything which helps to improve the combat readiness of the subunit and unit. This thought, which is in keeping with the demands which the CPSU makes upon our Armed Forces at the present stage, permeated the statements of all comrades at the electoral meeting.

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SPECIAL TROOPS

CONSTRUCTION: THE INDIVIDUAL APPROACH TO UPBRINGING

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 22, Nov 84 (signed to press 5 Nov 84) pp 63-69

[Article by Col Gen V. Bychenko, chief of the Political Administration, Military Construction Units: "Reach Each Person"]

[Text] The Communist Party has always viewed individual work as a most important means of upbringing Soviet people and raising their consciousness, labor activeness, discipline and self-discipline. This is the traditional, Leninist policy in CPSU practice. V. I. Lenin taught us to conduct upbringing work with the masses "...patiently and carefully, in order to be able to understand the peculiarities and special traits of psychology of each stratum and profession..." It is natural that these questions were thoroughly reflected in many CPSU guidance documents, the decisions of the 26th CPSU Party Congress and the June 1983 and subsequent Central Committee plenums, and the materials of the All-Army Conference of Secretaries of Komsomol Organizations. In his speech at the conference, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, speaking about the upbringing of young people, again stressed the importance of taking into account their age, educational level, interests and inclinations. This demand of the party relates directly to commanders, political officers and the party and komsomol activists in military construction units. They understand well what great importance individual work has in bringing up ideologically mature and conscious military construction personnel.

The desire to reach each person and understand his character, inclinations and views on life is not an end in itself for upbringing. After all it is important not merely to know as much as possible about people, but on the basis of studying their personal qualities to develop in them all their better qualities and mobilize their spiritual and physical energy to solve successfully the tasks at hand.

Individual upbringing work already begins with the young soldiers on the day that they arrive in the unit. Commanders, political officers and party and komsomol activists become familiar with the social and demographic data of the new arrivals. Information from the record and pay book about education, civilian specialty, labor skills, health and physical development, family situation and social origin helps to form a preliminary opinion about the

young military construction worker and to determine tentatively his future specialty. But, of course, no documents or biographical particulars replace direct interaction with a person. It goes without saying that during an individual talk one is not always immediately successful in causing a person to be frank and win him over. From my own experience I know how important in dealing with people are sincerity and openness, the correct tone and an ability to listen attentively and answer questions sympathetically. When a person senses a comradely attitude, honest interest and a desire to help he will without fail tell his innermost thoughts and communicate what troubles him. Observations and conclusions drawn in the course of such talks help commanders, political officers and party and komsomol activists to determine the correct pedagogical approach to a particular comrade. And how important here are candor on the part of the instructors, not feigned but real respect for the individual and the ability to see into the heart of the subordinate or co-worker -- him with whom one will be working for a long time.

Patriotic youth, prepared to overcome difficulties and adversities and capable of quickly mastering their construction specialty come to us in the military construction collectives. However, some of the inductees, especially those from the republics of Central Asia and the Transcaucasus, have weak knowledge of Russian, many have not passed the school of labor tempering and are insufficiently developed physically, and one even finds believers among them. All of these problems must be solved.

This concerns most of all improving the system of individual upbringing work which, in our opinion, must include training of leaders for this work in multi-national collectives, their personal interaction with their subordinates and stronger influence from party and komsomol collectives and teachers. This is not a simple matter. I believe that, first of all, it is necessary here to improve the style of mass political and ideological work and strengthen the link between leaders of all ranks and the masses.

We strive to inculcate in leading cadres a desire to interact regularly with their subordinates and an ability to listen to people. We teach them to take a daily interest in the frame of mind of the soldiers and their everyday problems, and to respond effectively and in a businesslike manner to urgent questions. And I am pleased to acknowledge that we have more and more leaders whose style of work with the personnel meets modern requirements, and for whom daily concern about people and a desire to meet their joys, anxieties and agitations is a spiritual need.

In the military construction units the collective led by Col V. Bezmenov is well renowned. Year after year the administration fulfills its production plans and is awarded the competitive Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, VTsSPS [All-Union Central Trade Union Council] and Komsomol Central Committee. One of the main elements of these successes is the ability of the leaders to work thoughtfully with their subordinates, influence them and dispose them to fulfill their tasks well. Viloriy Semenovitch can be seen constantly in the subunits and at the construction sites. He interacts with people there where the fate of the plan and the on-time putting into operation of a facility are being decided. Sensitivity and responsiveness are in his nature. At the same time he holds people strictly

accountable for dereliction in production organization and in military and labor discipline.

The officer knows the level of professional training of his subordinates and their inclinations and strong and weak aspects of their character. He knows what everyday problems trouble a given comrade. He watches people closely and studies them. The leader's style of work facilitates the creation of a healthy moral atmosphere in the collective.

Unified political education days have become one of the proven means in military construction units of studying people's frames of mind, opinions and inquiries. This is a good form of direct, vital interaction between leading cadres and the men. Unified political education days continue the good Leninist tradition of strengthening the ties between communist leaders and the masses. Meeting with their commanders and chiefs, the military construction personnel have an excellent opportunity to receive thorough answers to the questions which most interest and trouble them.

Unfortunately, there are also cases when the leader's interaction with the men is limited only to his address to them. But, it is more difficult from the rostrum to touch the heartstrings of a person and delve into his concerns. The communist leader cannot be indifferent to what views prevail in the collective and to what is interfering with the successful fulfillment of the production plan. And is it possible to understand this if a leader has not talked with people, become involved in their needs and inquiries or talked to them in confidence? In those places where leaders are able to make contact with their subordinates, meet them half way and respond to their sensible suggestions, there is no place for reservations or conflict situations, the specialists work more harmoniously, morale is better and production indices are higher.

This thought can be confirmed through many examples from the life of military construction units. I will discuss one such example. While in one of the subunits Col V. Dukhin met with the officers and warrant officers, who discussed existing shortcomings in the organization of production and in the availability of tools, specialized clothing and construction materials for the personnel. Vladimir Leont'yevich shared his observations and conclusions with officers in the administration and members of the party committee. Shortcomings were effectively eliminated and those at fault were brought to strict accountability. A discussion of these matters was held at an expanded session of the party committee and at a meeting of commanders and political officers of military construction detachments, where specific steps were worked out to improve the organization of production and everyday living conditions of the personnel. All of this was not without results. After some time the military collective where Col Dukhin had visited noticeably picked up its rate of fulfilling the production plan. Thus, an active response to problems troubling people "materialized" into an improvement in work.

It has become the norm for us to take individual questions of servicemen and their family members during unified political education days. It is also important to note this detail. Questions, proposals and desires of the military construction workers which require organizational measures are

generalized and a decision is made on each of them. Subsequently the personnel are told what was done about their statements and proposals. The men in the units know that not a single signal from the military construction workers will be unanswered. People's expectations, desires and hopes in most instances are justified and find understanding.

Without a doubt, tutorship plays a large role in individual upbringing work.

Tutor. It is a word filled with noble meaning. In military construction projects tutors are the most authoritative people, who not only themselves are models of a communist attitude toward work, but also actively foster high moral qualities in the young military construction workers. Many remarkable tutor-pedagogues can be found in construction organizations and units. These include the foremen of leading contract brigades, comrades I. Savotikov, V. Afanas'yev, L. Volozhinskiy, A. Zalevskiy and many others.

Life requires that the scale of this movement be expanded even further and that its effectiveness be achieved. We believe that the majority of young people arriving at military construction projects can and should be embraced by the individual influence of leading workers. It goes without saying that this does not refer to increasing formally the number of tutors. It is especially important here to select and train carefully a worthy reserve. The experience of the best collectives indicates that in places where the political organs, party organizations and trade union committees attract to their ranks people who are devoted to their cause, principled and creative, the authority of the tutor is high and the professional and ideological tempering of the young people is reliable.

The work of N. Maksimov, a CPSU member and honored construction worker of the RSFSR, who is bearer of the orders of the October Revolution and Labor Red Banner, is instructive. Over the course of many years the brigade which he leads has achieved high indices in labor and in fulfilling its production plans. The training and upbringing of military construction personnel takes into account their life experience, professional training and labor tempering. In the collective it has become a rule: each experienced specialist supervises a young one. The tutors teach their wards with fatherly patience, generously share their knowledge and experience and strive to make them effective workers as quickly as possible. The foreman himself constantly affirms good will, industriousness, a feeling of fellowship and responsiveness. The young workers see in him not only a qualified worker, but also a wise leader and able teacher, who is always ready to share his experience and give good advice.

The tutor's personal example is the most effective way of influencing the heart and mind of the military construction worker. If the teacher loves his profession, is honest and benevolent in his relationship with his comrades and principled in the struggle against shortcomings, as a rule his students become the same.

There is a lot which is positive in upbringing efforts in the construction organization where Lt Col A. Batyayev is party committee secretary. Col M. Belov, chief of the UNR [office of the work supervisor], and the communists

in the administration are attentive to the needs and inquiries of the military construction workers and give individual assistance in their upbringing. For example, in the brigade where Jr Sgt A. Abdulmanapov is in charge, owing to the active implementation of the motto for the country's leading production workers, "Not a Single Laggard Here," the workers achieved complete interchangeability and are mastering several specialties. After a year of service as a concrete worker, Private A. Kuliyeu learned the specialty of a carpenter, and electric welder G. Volchek learned those of a concrete worker and a rigger. Captain P. Marchenko, deputy VSO [military construction detachment] commander for political affairs; works superintendent Capt Engr A. Ziborov; Honored Builder of the RSFSR and Soviet Army concrete worker M. Kuznetsov, fulfilling the role of tutors, are deeply involved in the situation in the collective, give timely assistance to those who need it, and demandingly and considerably raise qualified cadres. The whole arsenal of individual educational work -- a sincere party word, demonstration of advanced techniques and work methods at the work place and sharing of experience -- serves this purpose. And it is natural that the brigade deals successfully with the production plan and fulfills it 120 percent or often even more, and that high labor and military discipline are maintained in the collective.

But the work of tutors is only effective when their activity is constantly guided by commanders, political officers and the party organizations, and when training is conducted with them. Many party committees systematically listen to accounts and reports of communist tutors about their work, give them needed assistance, generalize the experience of the best tutors and propagandize it. And they place strict demands on those who have a formalistic attitude toward their work. Without a doubt, this approach is correct, and owing to it tutorship brings good results in educational work.

Individual work in organizing the study of Russian with military construction personnel who are weak in the language has a great effect. For example, representatives of more than 20 nationalities serve in the detachment where V. Yermolov is commander. All the military construction personnel know Russian well. This is the result of a great deal of individual work. Circles for the study of Russian are organized in the detachment. They are led by instructors from among the members of the servicemen's families.

The subunits use various methods to accustom the students to active creative work in studying Russian. But individual exercises with military construction personnel of non-Russian nationality have particular importance. The komsomol buro appointed for each of them servicemen who were komsomol members and for whom Russian was their native language. The process of their interaction with their wards is not limited to the study of particular words, terms and concepts. There is also a kind of mutual recognition of people and familiarization with the cultures of various Soviet republics. Appealing to Leninist works and to the best artistic productions inculcate in the students a feeling of pride in our multinational Homeland and in belonging to the single Soviet people.

Individual upbringing work is an effective means of accustoming those military construction workers to active work and outstanding service who are accustomed to being satisfied with average indices and to live according to the principle

of the "golden mean:" not numbered among the passive, but not displaying particular initiative either. In some military construction detachments such "average types" comprise a large percentage of the personnel. It is very important to take timely note of them; display attention and demandingness toward each; thoughtfully deal with the reasons for their passiveness and help them to get into the rhythm of Army life and work more quickly.

This approach is characteristic of the style of work of the party organization in the military construction detachment where Captain N. Usachev is secretary. At their meetings communists systematically discuss questions of upbringing, strive to ensure that each serviceman is in their field of vision and through their joint efforts seek out ways to influence particular military construction workers. I will give an example of this.

When he arrived in the detachment Private M. Galimulin worked without particular zeal; however, he was not counted among the laggards. He displayed indifference toward everything going on around him. Komsomol activists repeatedly tried to speak with him frankly. But to all of their arguments the soldier answered the same: "What do you want of me? I do not violate discipline and I fulfill my missions..."

At first glance Galimulin accomplished everything that he was supposed to. But everything suggested that he was capable of more. Communist officer A. Kazakutsa, keeping a watchful eye on the military construction worker, noticed that he was not indifferent to equipment. The thought arose of designating him to do work related to vehicle repair and maintenance. The officer shared his views with the other communists. His opinion was supported. And, it must be said, his associates did not err about Galimulin. Working on the equipment transformed the military construction worker. He demonstrated enviable industriousness and initiative. Then the detachment commander decided on the next step: to designate Galimulin chief of the motor column. In his new position Galimulin displayed fully his creative energy. Due to his efforts and organizational cares the number of vehicles on line increased and the cargo transport plan began to be completed more precisely.

This is what is meant by examining an individual, finding out his inclinations and giving him the opportunity to display them.

Attention to those military construction personnel with an average level of training is an important reserve for solving the tasks of production at a high level of quality and for strengthening military and labor discipline. Life confirms that without the necessary attention paid to those military construction workers who adhere to the principle of the "golden mean," as a rule they commit a number of military disciplinary infractions and slide down the path of the laggards.

One of the most important directions in individual upbringing work is purposeful and thoughtful influence on believers. Compared to the overall number of inductees their numbers are small. Apparently this situation has even given rise to complacency in some leaders. This has resulted in numerous shortcomings in work with believers. It is necessary to teach commanders, political officers and party and komsomol activists much more objectively the

ability to conduct atheistic propaganda scientifically and to display a feeling of tact and patience toward believers. We already have some positive experience. It would be useful to disseminate it more widely and make it the property of all.

Private S. Kal'chik arrived to carry out his service at the military construction company where Sr Lt V. Dolgov was deputy commander for political affairs. He was called up from Volyn Oblast. During the get-acquainted talk it was established that Kal'chik had good skills as a joiner and was industrious. It was also revealed that he was a believer, belonging to the Pentacostal sect. Under the influence of his parents he frequented a prayer house before entering the army. The commander, political officer, komsomol activists, Sergeant V. Gordiyenko and PFC V. Listov, the platoon agitator, paid particular attention to Private Kal'chik. Politely and tactfully the activists went about their work, frequently talked with the soldier on political, youth oriented and everyday topics and accustomed him to the social life of the subunit. Things did not improve immediately. For a long time Kal'chik behaved warily and went unwillingly to lectures and other measures. It was very important that the activists, with the help of the commander and political officer, were able to deal seriously with the world outlook of their co-worker, find convincing arguments to reveal the error of his views and introduce into his consciousness a materialistic understanding of reality. Good will and honest interest in the fate of their comrade did its work. Private Kal'chik along with the other military construction workers began to go regularly to the movies, visit museums, join the library and more and more frequently speak sensibly at political classes.

Months passed. The soldier became a good specialist and excelled in military and political training. He decided to join the ranks of the komsomol. For his successes in service and exemplary military discipline the soldier was awarded the rank of private first class.

There are other positive examples in our units of able individual work which is making people better and motivating them to social-political and labor activeness. But in assessing critically what has been accomplished we see many reserves and unsolved problems. I will dwell on some of those which, in my view, are most important.

The effectiveness of individual upbringing depends decisively on the pedagogical skill of commanders, political officers and party and komsomol activists, and on their ability to use tested pedagogical methods competently. And it is precisely here that we still have plenty of "narrow places." Among those who are obligated to set the tone in individual upbringing there are still many who are not able to approach people and look in their hearts. Some officers "compensate" for shortcomings in pedagogical ability with shouting, coarseness and an undue attraction to disciplinary measures. This, of course, is of no help. The solution, it seems to me, is in raising party demandingness and in better learning the forms and methods of the individual approach. There are a great number of opportunities for this: party meetings, lectures by experienced pedagogues, methodological seminars, conferences, etc. All of this is being carried out in local areas. It is simply a question of how well. Of course much depends on the organizers of

such measures. They must ensure that people go to the podium not to restate known truths, but to discuss vitally important questions and offer ways to solve them.

I believe that it is important, first of all, to improve the style of work of political organs, party committees and buros in upbringing work with the men. They are expected to be concerned about improving teachers' methodological training, promoting a closer link between communist leaders and the masses and thoroughly studying people's opinions and frames of mind. To what should attention be paid? Opportunities are not being fully utilized for individual work to improve the cohesion of collectives, strengthen friendship and military comradeship, and impart in the men a love for the profession of military construction, which by their labor creates the material and technical base of the country's defense and of the combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Party organizations functioning directly at the work sites can do a great deal to improve upbringing work. I am speaking about more actively involving communist engineer and technical workers in the men's upbringing; i.e., those comrades who are constantly located among military construction personnel right where the main production tasks are being solved and the fate of fulfilling the plan and socialist commitments is being decided. It is obviously true that a man is best known in his work. This means that the better that communists study people, the more perceptibly they will be able to influence them, mobilize them to accomplish their missions well and contribute to the further strengthening of military and labor discipline.

Social science faculties at military construction command, political and engineering schools are called upon to assist us more actively. They are carrying out some work. Training aids for political classes with military construction personnel and recommendations about special features of party-political work in military construction units have been prepared. However, not enough thorough materials have yet been prepared on problems of individual work and of cohesion in multinational collectives. Life also shows that students should be given better training on the practice of individual upbringing work.

In short, the problems are many. The political administration is directing its efforts toward searching for effective means of strengthening discipline in military construction units and toward increasing the activeness of upbringing work in the midst of the soldiers. Not a single person must stay outside of the sphere of our ideological influence. Only under this condition can we count on positive results in upbringing and in mobilizing military construction workers to solve successfully the tasks which face them.

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SPECIAL TROOPS

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CIVIL DEFENSE

ON OPERATION OF DECONTAMINATION STATIONS

Moscow VOYENNIYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 11, Nov 84 (Signed to press 8 Oct 84)
pp 28-29

[Article by Col L. Petrov: "Decontamination Stations"]

[Text] Decontamination stations are set up to conduct radiological, chemical and biological decontamination of vehicles and road building and engineer equipment. As a rule they are set up at motor transport offices, depots and maintenance stations as well as other specially equipped areas. Decontamination of transport vehicles and equipment is conducted outside of the contaminated terrain.

The decontamination station is a complex of specially adapted premises and areas of ground. One or several lines for decontamination of transport vehicles and equipment are set up on the premises. Each consists of sequentially arranged two or three worker posts where vehicles and machinery are processed. Parallel to the lines are set up tables and panels for processing detachable items, spare parts and tools and racks for chemical and radiological decontamination of tarps and tents.

Water and compressed air are brought to the post and used to carry out the decontamination. Vehicles are set on platforms or over washing trenches and the discharge (effluent) of contaminated water runs through water intakes. At the posts are found tanks for preparation of decontamination solutions; containers for clean and dirty rags; brushes and various scrapers needed for the decontamination.

Vehicles arriving at the decontamination stations go to the parking area for contaminated vehicles and equipment, where the degree of contamination is determined. The worst contaminated places are marked and will be more extensively treated. Then the detachable equipment is removed and the vehicle proceeds to the first work post. Here it is cleaned of dirt and oils. Then it moves to the second work post where it is decontaminated, depending on the type of contamination. If both radioactive and toxic chemical substances are on equipment at the same time, the chemical toxins are removed first. After chemical decontamination the presence of radioactive substances is measured. Radioactive decontamination is carried out if the contamination exceeds 200 milliroentgens per hour.

Chemical and radiological decontamination are conducted with brushes, rags and streams of specially prepared decontamination solution. Personnel use various machinery for washing vehicles, as well as expedient means: scrapers, brushes, brooms, etc.

Processing the vehicle begins with the left side. First the wind shields, radiator, hood, cab and transmission are washed. Then they move to the other side. The completeness of decontamination is monitored at the third work post with the aid of chemical and radiation reconnaissance instruments, and if the degree of contamination exceeds that permitted it is re-treated. Afterwards the detachable equipment, tents and other parts are affixed. Treated vehicles are sent to the clean half of the station, where they are dried, lubricated and prepared for departure.

Technical equipment is used for decontamination: VES-1500, 1NVZTs-1500, B5S-1500 and other washing assemblies; M-600 (800) motor-driven pumps; sprinkler and sweeper vehicles; automatic water pouring stations, as well as various instruments. Firefighting vehicles of various models can be used if needed. Processing of transport equipment may also take place using an intermittent stream of condensed gas with the aid of heat generating vehicles.

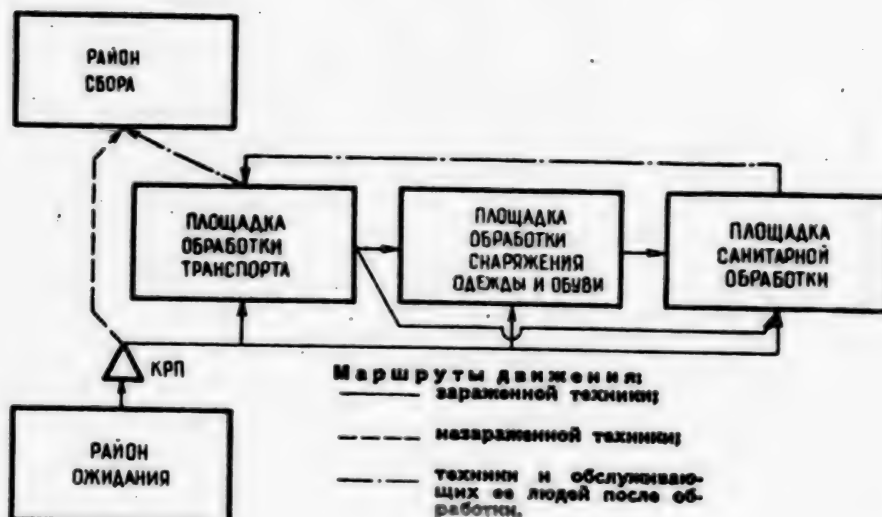
Water solutions of various washing powders, dichloroethane, gasoline, kerosene and various soap and water solutions are used for decontamination. Water suspensions of DTS-GK [a mixture of three parts of calcium hypochlorite and two parts of calcium hydroxide], calcium hypochlorite and industrial by-products containing surfactants are effective for chemical decontamination of equipment.

Shortages of fixed decontamination stations for decontaminating transport equipment can be made up by deploying them in field conditions according to the same layout not far from the routes of movement of civil defense forces, in places where there are water sources and vehicular approaches. Work places in such stations are equipped with the simplest platforms or timber flooring and a discharge system for used water and solutions. Water runoff canals and absorption sumps are placed outside of the confines of the station. On the boundary between the dirty and clean halves, washing vehicles and hand sprayers are set up and the required tools, wiping material, instruments and apparatuses are readied. As an example we will show the functioning of a chemical decontamination station having two work posts.

The contaminated vehicle goes along the platform. Crews of the sprinkling vehicles, each on its side, treat it as it approaches, beginning at the front. After a brief halt to treat the body and wheels, the vehicle is washed from behind. Then the equipment is collected on the clean half of the station and further sent to the assembly area.

After vehicles are chemically and radiologically decontaminated, the personnel servicing them and the drivers remain to decontaminate clothing, shoes and means of individual protection in a place especially set aside for this, and are themselves decontaminated.

BASIC DIAGRAM OF A VEHICLE TRANSPORT DECONTAMINATION STATION



Routes of movement:

KEY

— contaminated equipment
 ---- uncontaminated equipment
 -.-. equipment and people
 servicing it after
 treatment

- 1 - Waiting area
- 2 - Check and distribution point
- 3 - Assembly area
- 4 - Vehicle treatment station
- 5 - Personal equipment, clothing
and footwear treatment station
- 6 - Personnel decontamination
station

It is necessary to observe safety measures when carrying out decontamination. They include using individual means of protection and dividing the decontamination station into "clean" and "dirty" halves. When decontaminating motor transport, personnel put on and take off individual means of protection in specially set up places, check their state of repair and do not handle contaminated articles. Used rags are burned or buried.

During decontamination, personnel are forbidden to smoke, drink, eat or rest in the work stations or to unfasten or remove means of protection without being so ordered. At decontamination stations it is also necessary to organize dosimetric and chemical monitoring, to check periodically the degree

of contamination of equipment and instruments and to replace personnel in accordance with permissible norms for irradiation. Drainage sumps and pits must not be allowed to become too full. Preparation of decontamination solutions is conducted wearing means of individual protection.

To avoid overheating the men working in protective clothing, it is necessary to observe maximum periods established for remaining therein:

Air Temperature	Time of Stay
+30 degrees C and higher	15-20 min
+25-29 degrees C	up to 30 min
+20-24 degrees C	40-50 min
+15-19 degrees C	up to 2 hours
below 15 degrees C	more than 3 hours

These periods can be increased by 1.5 to 2 times if the surface of the protective clothing is periodically hosed down with water. When preparing to work under high temperatures it is necessary to take off warm socks and quilted or woolen clothing.

After work at the decontamination station is completed, pits or discharge areas for contaminated water and refuse are covered with dirt. The dirty half of the station is decontaminated and the men undergo complete personal decontamination. After further accomplishment of civil defense tasks, all the work of transport vehicle and equipment decontamination is carried out again.

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CIVIL DEFENSE

VOYENRUK ON TRAINING FOR CBR OBSERVATION POSTS

Moscow VOYENNNYYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 11, Nov 84 (Signed to press 8 Oct 84)
pp 20-21

[Article by G. Mizikovskiy, methodologist, Moscow City Institute for Improving Teacher Qualifications: "The Post Conducts Observation"]

[Text] The topic, "Radiological and Chemical Observation Post," is studied in school in two lessons; one hour of theory and two of practice. In a way it sums up the whole civil defense course. In fact, during its study it is possible to check in practice how well the students know the organizational structure of civil defense in school and can act in the event of enemy use of nuclear weapons and use means of individual and collective defense, and how well they have learned the civil defense recognition signals and techniques for work with radiation and chemical reconnaissance and dosimetric monitoring instruments.

This raises with particular acuity the question of what forms, methods and means of training and education it is necessary for the voyenruk [military instructor] to use in order to achieve his goal. In our view the experience of Reserve Colonel V. Berezkin, voyenruk of the 644th Moscow School may be useful.

"When I go to a class," says Vladimir Yakovlevich, "I have already 'played through' it mentally. Of course it is not possible to foresee everything, but if you know what you want to achieve and by what means you will solve training and educational tasks, then no unexpected occurrence will fluster you and you will always find a pedagogically well-founded solution."

What tasks does the instructor set for himself? Training tasks are to give the students initial abilities in fulfilling their duties as members of the radiological and chemical observation post. Upbringing tasks are to instill in them a feeling of collectivism and a readiness to carry out active actions under difficult conditions and in any weather. Developmental tasks are to form powers of observation, meaningful perception and an ability to analyze a rapidly changing situation and thereby compile clear and well-founded reports.

The voyenruk begins to accomplish the upbringing tasks from the first minute of the lesson, when he explains what an observation post is and what its

duties consist of. In doing this he emphasizes that the post is a civil defense formation linked by a single objective and a common responsibility for the matter entrusted to it. When summing up the results at the end of the lesson, he does not fail to emphasize which posts functioned in a spirit of collectivism and comradely mutual assistance and how this influenced their work.

Upbringing tasks are also attained by virtue of the fact that, regardless of the weather (in December, when the topic "Radiological and Chemical Observation Post" is conducted, there may be freezing, slushy or snowy weather in Moscow) the two hour practical exercise will take place on the training grounds. The students become accustomed to the thought that poor weather is not a reason to cancel outdoor classes. Thus, qualities needed by the soldier -- staunchness and the ability to overcome one's own weaknesses and endure burdens -- are formed. We will dwell in more detail on how training tasks are solved. For this purpose the voyenruk divides the entire training material into relatively independent sections or "groups of actions." In the opinion of Vladimir Yakovlevich such sections are: first, getting a fix on the nuclear explosion; second, detecting radioactive contamination; third, detecting chemical contamination.

In the first instance the students must study actions of the post at the Air Raid signal; learn to locate by intersection the time and place of the nuclear burst, distance to the center (epicenter), appearance of and magnetic azimuth to the burst and yield of the burst; as well as to report the results of observation and annotate the journal. In all he needs to assimilate eight initial abilities.

The second "group of actions" includes detecting radioactive contamination; actions upon the Radiation Danger signal; determining the level of radiation in the area of the post; determining the direction in which the radioactive air is spreading; monitoring the fall in radiation level; reports and journal entries. The third group are approximately the same, but as applied to chemical contamination.

Thus the two hour practical exercise presumes that the whole class will develop 22 initial abilities. This, of course, is not an easy task. How does Voyenruk Berezkin accomplish it?

First of all, he ably relies on the knowledge and skills which the students already possess. Thus, school students learned to determine a magnetic azimuth in geography lessons in the 7th grade, and the actions to take upon a nuclear burst in tactics lessons in the 10th grade. Much is known to them from previous civil defense lessons.

Moreover, he spends a minimum amount of time in the initial theory class on studying questions which are not related to the practical work of the observation post. After all, reconnaissance tasks and associated requirements are learned in great detail in the tactics section. Here he considers it necessary to give only a brief characterization of reconnaissance and to shift immediately to the work of the post.

There is also a third reserve for strengthening abilities needed to fulfill the duties required in the observation post. This is the military sports game "Orlenok" and "Young Soldier Days," which are carried out in school. The staff for the game willingly includes these questions in its program. The 'young soldiers' are happy to accomplish the duties of observation post personnel.

Now I will describe the lessons in a little more detail. The first lesson, theory, begins, as usual, with a formation. Then the voyenruk calls groups of three from the formation (the composition of the posts), assigns them a number, states who is in charge and proposes that they occupy in the military office a place set aside for each post. Thus, harmony within the posts is already being developed during the first lesson.

Subsequently the voyenruk refers not to individual students but to posts. Everywhere in the class one hears: "Post No 6 is on duty. The observer reports. Second observer reports. Chief of the post reports." If the instructor notices a mistake, the command follows: "Post Four! What was the mistake made by Post Three?" The main actions necessary in fulfilling the duties of an observation post are practiced for 45 minutes.

Of course, no matter how organized the lesson is, it is not possible to practice all situations discussed above. But, two hours lie ahead. Voyenruk Berezhkin prepares for them carefully and in advance. Long before the practical exercise he designates one post from the class with which he works especially. On "Young Soldier Day" this post is used to demonstrate actions under training ground conditions. In the lessons the students in this post become assistants to the voyenruk and instructors for the other students.

The practical exercise begins in a very unusual way. M. Kuznetsova, school director of studies and facility civil defense chief of staff, visits the formation. The platoon commander reports to her and she assigns the observation task. The students are told that this task is the same for all posts. The civil defense chief of staff orders that changes in the situation in the observation area be reported via communications equipment and messengers.

After the director of studies leaves, the voyenruk clarifies the task and orients the personnel, reporting information which is necessary for the work. First Post No 1, which was previously trained, begins its watch. It is given inputs so that it is able to demonstrate all the techniques which the students must learn. This takes approximately 20 minutes.

In the remaining time the other posts accomplish several exercise inputs. In particular they function in response to the Nuclear Burst, Air Raid and Radiation Danger signals. The voyenruk also gives them inputs: "The instruments show that radioactive fallout has begun in the area of the post." "Move observation to the shelter. Determine the coefficient of attenuation. The level of radiation outside the shelter is 30 roentgens per hour; inside the shelter it is 3 roentgens per hour." "Inside the shelter the level of radiation is 5 roentgens per hour. Determine the level of radiation outside the shelter." "Determine the type of contaminant if...", etc. He observes

whether the students act correctly, report the results of their observations and maintain their journal.

In analyzing the experience of the voyenruk of the 644th Moscow School and attending his classes it is not difficult to notice the usefulness of developing in detail the tasks and objectives of each lesson; prioritizing training information; dividing it into "groups of actions" and clearly defining the initial abilities which the students must acquire in the lessons. Having set himself a specific objective, the instructor moves towards it step by step.

The training material base, and in particular the equipping of the training field, plays a tremendous role. After all, this is where the two hour practical exercise takes place.

In order for the training field to be completely ready, the voyenruk suggested in advance that the question of the "young soldiers" readying the field for civil defense exercises be discussed at a meeting of the staff of the military sports game "Orlenok." The staff tasked one of the "young soldiers" subunits to put into order the covered slit trench, the site for training on operating radiological and chemical reconnaissance instruments and the foxhole. The foxhole was equipped with a small table for the observer and the covered slit trench with a working table and small bench. At the time of the exercise the post was equipped with radiation and chemical reconnaissance instruments, dosimeters, means of individual protection, first aid kits and anti-chemical packets. It also had a stopwatch, protective glasses, means of reporting and communications, binoculars, a compass and a journal for notes on the observations.

Naturally, the question arises: What if the school does not have the things enumerated here? Unfortunately, the 644th School also does not have everything, but nevertheless the post was completely equipped for the lesson. Neighboring schools shared equipment which was in short supply. The patron enterprise also never refuses to help.

In conclusion, it should be said that the mental run through of the lesson which the voyenruk conducts each time plays an exceptional role in the training process. This repetition helps him to be assured of the correctness of the norms selected for organization of the lesson, the methods of depicting the training information and the methods of interacting with the students. This largely determines the success of the lesson.

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CIVIL DEFENSE

ON PROBLEM OF MOTIVATING WORKERS FOR CD EXERCISES

Moscow VOYENNIYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 11, Nov 84 (Signed to press 8 Oct 84)
p 16

[Article by I. Puzyr', deputy secretary, factory administration party organization, Klaypeda, Lithuanian SSR: "They Did Not Repeat the Mistakes"]

[Text] Recently a demonstration comprehensive civil defense exercise took place at the Klaypeda Cardboard Carton Factory. In working out problems related to defending the population against weapons of mass destruction, the personnel of non-militarized formations functioned not only energetically, but also knowledgeably.

Special editions of wall newspapers labeled "Standouts in Civil Defense," operational news bulletins and picture newspapers told about this at all stages of the exercise. In talking about the fulfillment of tasks, I wish to dwell on the important question of organizing party political work in the preparatory period.

On the eve of the exercise, the factory party committee discussed the tasks of the party aktiv. V. Kashyuba, chief of civil defense at the facility, presented a report which described shortcomings in the organization of exercises in past years and made specific suggestions. He remarked that the role of communists and veterans of war and labor is great, especially in generalizing and disseminating advanced experience.

"Do you see what happens?" emphasized Vitas Yuzovich. "In past exercises N. Konokhov, chief of the civil defense firefighting service and Y. Eyva, head of the machine shop, were recognized as among the best. But who in the factory, besides their formations, know the secret of their success? Neither a wall newspaper, nor operational news bulletins, nor local radio, nor agitators uttered a single word about these people. A factory order was issued, prizes were awarded and with this the matter was closed."

When the party committee session discussed past training mistakes, shortcomings in knowledge of civil defense were also indicated. Thus, when the Air Raid signal was declared, some workers in Carton Shop No 2 stayed at their places. And those who hid in non-hermetically sealed protective facilities did not have means of individual protection. Factory

administrative employees walked as if on a stroll in the park during movement to the shelter. The factory radio net was not used to give signals; therefore, the sirens were not heard at distant points in the facility. In short, there was much to improve in training people. During the interim training of formation personnel was intensified, candidates for exercise leaders were most carefully selected and the training material base was strengthened.

In its decision the party committee determined that it is the task of each communist and agitator to explain specifically to the factory workers and employees the present international situation and the aggressive goals of imperialist reaction. It is necessary to mobilize all personnel in the facility to increase their vigilance and conscientiously fulfill their duties. A special agitator's booklet, including example topics for talks and speeches, was recommended for work with the personnel of non-militarized formations.

V. Popova, chief of the technical library, selected civil defense literature to assist propagandists. A seminar was conducted on the topic, "Tasks of Agitators in a Comprehensive Exercise," which devoted most of its attention to methods of talks and lectures. Lecturers of the Znaniye Society primary organization spoke to the fighters in the formations and the facility senior supervisors. The party committee approved editors of wall newspapers, operational news bulletins and photo newspapers from among the communists. Designated agitators were assigned to tell all exercise participants the tasks of each stage and to be pioneers in taking on commitments under the slogan, "Not a Single Laggard Among Us!"

The exercises ended, and I can say that all work carried out in the preparatory stage was fully justified. As the saying goes, "Difficult in training -- Easy in Battle." The comprehensive civil defense exercise at our facility was carried out at a high level and in an atmosphere of widespread visibility, and demonstrated the good preparation of the formations and the entire collective.

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CIVIL DEFENSE

LETTERS TO EDITOR ON SOCIALIST COMPETITIONS

Moscow VOYENNIYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 11, Nov 84 (Signed to press 8 Oct 84)
pp 18-19

[Letter by N. Pertsev, facility civil defense chief of staff, Ostrogozhsk, Voronezh oblast: "We Compete and Grow," and unattributed letter, "Banner For Hire"]

[Text] A year ago we suggested to our readers that thoughts be shared on forms and principles of organizing socialist competition on civil defense in facilities and that the extent of interaction of civil defense staffs with social organizations and the inclusion of civil defense indices in tallying up annual production results be discussed. We suggested this so that we might think jointly about how to eliminate formalism in this important matter and how to make the goals and conditions of competition relevant and understandable to each worker, kolkhoz worker and employee.

In this issue we continue to publish responses and answers to the journal article which have been received.

"We Compete and Grow." The Ostrogozhsk Automotive Repair Factory System of RSFSR Goskomsel'khoztekhniki was frequently victorious in socialist competition on civil defense among the oblast's economic facilities. It has retained the competitive Red Banner of the Voronezh Oblispolkom 12 years in a row. When I am asked the secret of the stable work of our collective in civil defense I usually answer that success depends on the existence of a good training and material base, precise management, plan discipline, a high degree of political consciousness and activeness by people and precisely organized factory wide socialist competition.

Problems of training workers and employees for defense against weapons of mass destruction are constantly at the center of attention of the administration and party, trade union and komsomol organizations. In working out the conditions of socialist competition we determine the practical meaning of one or another particular measure and the period of time needed for its fulfillment. At all levels this work is effective and businesslike in nature. Shops compete against shops, divisions against divisions, sections against sections, and formations against formations. Individual competition has been

developed widely: Who best fulfills civil defense norms; who most completely masters the training program?

Competitive inspections of production collectives, which are carried out in the factory annually on the day on which USSR Civil Defense was established (4 October), are an effective means of competition. Daily practice convinces us that orders alone do not solve all the tasks or create the necessary environment. Also needed are comradely persuasion and high level argumentation -- everything which is included in the concept, "ability to work with people." This is the moral aspect of socialist competition. Here a great deal depends on the professional and political qualities of the production leader, chiefs of civil defense services and formation commanders.

Exercise leaders in the training groups, formation commanders and political officers and chairmen of shop trade union committees are the direct organizers for fulfilling commitments which have been undertaken.

The civil defense staff presents to the trade union committee information on the course of fulfilling civil defense commitments. These commitments are primary indices. Preliminary civil defense results are summed up monthly along with production data. Winners of socialist competition are awarded competitive Red Banners, pennants and monetary awards. The course of fulfillment of civil defense commitments is reflected on a special board and announced over the factory radio.

We use methodology sessions of factory leaders, training meetings, and classes for instructors to tell about the best methodologists and propagandize their experience.

D. Babakov, G. Andreyev, V. Revin and P. Kazbanov were especially successful in training and educating formation personnel and preparing the population on civil defense. Their knowledge of their duties and of the basics of civil defense and their methodological ability enables them to conduct the lessons in an interesting fashion and in a spirit of healthy competition.

It has been rightly noted that work turns out well in a cohesive, friendly collective, whether it be a section, brigade or shop, where a microclimate was established which is conducive to truly creative work and to high quality fulfillment of civil defense measures. Take, for example, the construction elements where V. Skorobogat'ko, I. Smetankin and I. Sleptsov are chiefs of civil defense, which year after year achieve high results in socialist competition. Here the civil defense training process is well organized and the non-militarized formations are in constant readiness and demonstrate able and initiative-filled actions in exercises.

The collective contract plays an organizing role in all these spheres of activity. In our contract commitments made regarding civil defense are defined separately. It was difficult to get them included in this document. For a number of years the staff tried to see that civil defense measures were reflected in the collective contract. Support from the obkom of the agricultural workers' trade union helped us. In the new training year it will be necessary to work hard so that the civil defense of our facility improves

to the level of modern requirements. This will require that competition for successful fulfillment of five-year plan tasks and civil defense measures acquire new strength and scope.

"Banner for Hire." A letter from P. Rapeko, civil defense chief of staff of the Tokmak Diesel Construction Factory, Zaporozh'ye Oblast, was published in our journal under this headline (No 12, 1983). The letter's author reported on shortcomings in the organization of civil defense competition in the facility caused by inadequate attention from the administration and social organizations. He also noted that in meetings of facility leaders in the city of Tokmak, when annual civil defense results are summed up the winners are awarded a Red Banner temporarily borrowed from another facility. They are furled when awarded so that the sewn on titles of their owners are not visible.

We sent this letter to the Zaporozh'ye Oblast civil defense staff. Col N. Muratov, chief of staff, informed us that the facts described in the letter checked out. In 1982, when summing up the year's results, a competitive Red Banner was awarded for the first time, to the city civil defense medical service (previously winners were awarded pennants). The banner had already been obtained, but had not yet been decoratively designed. In order not to ruin the ceremony, M. Ivanov, the former Tokmak city civil defense chief of staff, decided to take the banner located at the factory imeni S. M. Kirov. This banner was awarded to the medical personnel.

A. Mikhaylovskiy, deputy chairman of the gorispolkom, was given a strict reprimand by the city leaders for poor control in the preparation of this measure. The situation had been corrected when results for the following year were summed up. The winners of socialist competition were awarded competitive Red Banners of the party gorkom and city soviet ispolkom, pennants and certificates.

The presidium of the Zaporozh'ye obkom of the heavy machinebuilding workers trade union heard the report of A. Polezhayev, chairman of the trade union committee of the factory imeni S. M. Kirov, about the organization of socialist competition in civil defense at the factory and indicated the shortcomings in this work. A meeting of chairmen of the shop trade union committees was held at the facility on questions of increasing assistance to the civil defense staff in organizing socialist competition, equipping civil defense reading corners and creating a training material base. Conditions governing competition were worked out and its conduct among factory shops and non-militarized formations was organized. Results are summed up monthly and at year's end. A competitive Red Banner, pennant, certificates and monetary prizes were established by the enterprise management and trade union committee as incentives for the winners.

The question of the state of civil defense at the facility and measures to improve it was twice examined at sessions of the factory party committee, where V. Akhrameyev, facility chief of civil defense; the chief engineer; and other leaders were heard. The party committee outlined specific steps to eliminate shortcomings. The komsomol committee and facility civil defense

staff jointly developed a civil defense work plan for the komsomol organization.

The Zaporozh'ye civil defense staff monitored implementation of these outlined measures at the diesel construction factory imeni S. M. Kirov in Tokmak. The shortcomings mentioned in P. Rapeko's letter were analyzed at a meeting of civil defense chiefs of staff from cities, rayons and economic facilities in the oblast.

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COL GEN ODINTSOV DISCUSSES MILITARY-PATRIOTIC UPBRINGING

Moscow PARTIYNAYA ZHIZN' in Russian No 22, Nov 84 (signed to press 5 Nov 84) pp 60-64

[Article by Colonel General A. Odintsov, first deputy chairman, USSR DOSAAF central committee: "Military-Patriotic Education—Our Common Concern"]

[Text] The working people of our country along with the members of our armed forces are preparing to observe our most joyous, moving commemorative occasion, May 9, 1985, the 40th anniversary of the victory the Soviet people won in the Great Patriotic War. The passing decades have demonstrated increasingly clearly and dramatically the true universal historical significance of this great victory. The destruction of German fascism and then of Japanese militarism left the profoundest of impressions upon the entire course of world history since then. Our complete, crushing defeat of the aggressor will serve as a stern reminder to any now hatching plans for another war against the USSR and the other countries of the socialist commonwealth.

That war teaches that to preserve peace you must organize and coordinate cohesive, vigorous activity on the part of all peaceloving forces against the adventurism of the aggressive forces of imperialism. This is particularly important today, when we see reactionary imperialist circles, the United States of America first and foremost among them, ignoring the lessons of history and proclaiming a new "crusade" against socialism, striving to establish military superiority over the Soviet Union and its allies and, knowing no restraint, intensifying the nuclear arms race and arrogantly and furiously engaging in military preparations.

Given these conditions, the Communist Party and Soviet Government are doing everything possible to preserve peace and prevent a nuclear catastrophe. Our policy combines an everlasting love of peace with continuous readiness to deal a crushing rebuff to an aggressor. The party and government have demonstrated a constant concern for efforts to increase the defense capability and fighting strength of the Soviet Armed Forces and to insure that we will always dispose of all resources necessary to cool down the feverish heads of any militaristic adventurers.

The Soviet people unanimously endorse and support the domestic and foreign policies of the party and Soviet Government and are sparing no effort to add to the strength of our socialist motherland. The organizations of DOSAAF see their role to consist in contributing to this patriotic effort. As an independent, mass-scale military-patriotic organization, the defense society's primary task is actively to contribute to the effort to increase the country's defense capability and to help train workers

to defend the socialist fatherland. This means to educate our people in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, to teach them and develop in them a constant readiness to defend the motherland, to spread military knowledge and skills among the population along with the heroic traditions of the Soviet people and their Armed Forces, training our young people for military service and workers in the mass technical vocations for service in the national economy and, finally, to organize programs and develop skills in the technical and applied military sports.

Our DOSAAF committees play their role in the military-patriotic education of working and young people under the direction of the party committees and in close cooperation with trade union and Komsomol organizations, the all-Union Znaniye Society, political authorities in the Armed Forces, military commissariats, civil defense staff officials and sections of the Soviet War Veterans Committee. This effort has taken a great many interesting and effective forms: readings from Lenin and other texts on social and political topics, conferences, evening discussions devoted to military-patriotic subjects, discussions of literature and lessons in courage. Other popular activities include the all-Union Komsomol and youth tour of sites of revolutionary, military, and labor significance in the history of the Communist Party and the Soviet people, the all-Union memorial watch, the Zarnitsa and Orlenok military sports games and the mass defense campaign months and weeks in honor of Army Day and Navy Day. The ceremonial rituals at our monuments and memorial complexes, the meetings with veterans of the Great Patriotic War, the send-offs for our men who have been called up for military service and all our other military-patriotic activities are interesting and meaningful occasions.

To be able to carry on this program of activities, society committees have, in addition to their regular full-time staff, their nonorganizational, nonstaff departments and lecture groups, which attract the participation of tens of thousands more people, who include large numbers of war veterans, reserve officers and other activists.

Since the publication of the CPSU Central Committee decree, "The 40th Anniversary of the Victory of the Soviet People in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945," we have seen a considerable intensification of military-patriotic activities conducted by defense society organizations. The DOSAAF organizations in the Belorussian SSR have conducted an effective and well-oriented program of activities. They organize mass-scale tours of sites of importance in revolutionary and military history, military sports games, searches for material on the heroic deeds of soldiers who fought in the Civil War and Great Patriotic War and meetings with active members and veterans of the Soviet Army and sponsor military units.

The Minsk DOSAAF schools operate reading rooms and organize lecture series devoted to military-patriotic topics. Students have had numerous opportunities to hear R. N. Machul'skiy, A. I. Bardanov, V. S. Michurin and N. V. Popov, all Heroes of the Soviet Union, V. N. Sinchilin, chairman of the Minsk section of the War Veterans Committee, Captain 1st Rank V. A. Vaverov, who participated in the assault on the Winter Palace, and other speakers. Patriot, the university of military-patriotic education in Gomel's Sovetskiy Rayon is also popular. Director of the university is Colonel (Ret.) S. F. Shakarov, candidate of pedagogical sciences. Each year sees more than 50 young people who have attended the university go on to our country's military schools.

The republic's DOSAAF House deserves special attention. The university of military-patriotic education, whose students attend the Minsk city vocational and technical

school, has been associated with this institution for some 20 years now. The instruction offered here, instruction conducted by war veterans, is designed to relate closely to problems of everyday life and, as far as content is concerned, is highly educational and properly oriented from the strictly military point of view. DOSAAF House also operates a museum devoted to the history of the society's Belorussian organization. The museum won broad public recognition within only a short time after it opened. It has already welcomed more than 20,000 visitors.

The Brest Oblast DOSAAF House has also undertaken its initiatives. During 1984 alone, for example, it has prepared and conducted five conferences on military-patriotic themes in conjunction with the Brest section of the Soviet War Veterans Committee and prepared material and recommendations on methods for lecturers and speakers on the 40th anniversary of the great victory and sent this material out to all rayons in the oblast.

DOSAAF committees in Moscow, Leningrad and Leningrad Oblast, Ukraine and Latvia, too, have gained important new experience in organizing educational programs on heroism and patriotism for workers and young people. Members of the Ukraine's defense society, for example, have been enthusiastic participants in the all-Union "Chronicle of the Great Patriotic War" search expedition. Participants in this search have already collected hundreds of thousands of memoirs from front-line veterans, battlefield relics and other military memorabilia and organized to sponsor hospitals and homes for disabled veterans of the Great Patriotic War. They have erected 35,000 monuments, obelisks and other memorials. In Rovno Oblast it has become something of a tradition for schools, technicums, city vocational and technical schools and DOSAAF schools to begin the school year with lessons in courage. This instruction will involve the participation of war veterans, all members of the bureau of the Rovno city committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine and defense society activists.

Now, each committee will determine the forms and methods of organization and activity which suit it best, taking into account its own local conditions. Veterans councils in Leningrad and Leningrad Oblast, for example, are active as sponsors of DOSAAF primary organizations in schools, technicums and vocational and technical schools. The first half of 1984 alone saw more than 5000 meetings with workers, 1210 of these with military registrants and inductees. More than 800 veterans are serving as members of nonstaff departments of an organization, lecture groups and standing committees of DOSAAF rayon and city committees. This effort has been facilitated considerably by the decision of the Leningrad oblast and city committees of the CPSU to create new party organizations to bring together most of the local nonworking veterans of the Great Patriotic War and attach these organization to the DOSAAF rayon and city committees. The product of this initiative and consistent effort to provide our young people with training in preparation for their service in the Armed Forces is that each year sees Leningrad and Leningrad Oblast sending a well-trained class of new recruits into the service.

The CPSU Central Committee decree outlines a series of steps designed to improve the programs of military-patriotic education in which our DOSAAF committees and organizations are participating. In 1985 the hero-city Tula will host a national jamboree for winners in the young people's tour of historical revolutionary, military and labor sites and the first All-Union Hero-City Youth Games. Tushino airport in Moscow will be the site of an aviation sports festival. Plans call for the traditional month of

mass defense activities in January-February 1985 to be dedicated to the 67th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces and the 40th of the great victory. All these and the other activities represent a substantial addition to the arsenal of forms and methods of organizing and conducting military-patriotic activities available to DOSAAF organizations.

Each passing year sees our relationships with the defense organizations of the socialist countries grow closer and more extensive, relationships which help strengthen the friendship and cooperation between these countries and educate the young people there in the spirit of the glorious revolutionary, military and labor traditions of their peoples and the various communist and workers parties. The September 1984 conference in Minsk on military-patriotic and internationalist youth education attended by representatives of defense organizations in 10 socialist countries was devoted to this noble cause.

We are currently engaged in active preparations for the international automobile race to be run by representatives of the defense, Komsomol and other youth organizations of the ten socialist countries, which will take them through the European capitals on a course from Moscow to Berlin.

Defense society organizations are intensively engaged in a program of military-patriotic activities, and these activities are yielding positive results. It should be recognized, however, that we are still seeing no small number of possibilities going unrealized. A number of committees are taking only a superficial approach to their tasks; they are making more and more decisions about any number things, but the situation remains substantially unchanged. Too many committees have yet to learn how to integrate the patriotic and internationalist education they provide society members with the basic military education programs they operate.

The contribution the defense society makes to the effort to increase the country's defense capability can be seen particularly clearly in the programs it operates to train our young people in preparation for their service in the Soviet Armed Forces. The USSR universal military service law imposes some very important obligations on USSR DOSAAF when it comes to preparing young people for their military service. In accordance with this law the defense society trains technical specialists for the armed forces. Many registrants are now learning technical specialties in our special schools before they leave for service in the army or navy. Society committees also provide guidance in instructional methodology for the basic military training programs conducted for working youth at the training facilities and render active assistance in the organization of basic military training for students at our general education, specialized secondary and vocational-technical schools.

To use for the training and preparation of our future military specialists the defense society enjoys the use of a fairly large number of aviation sport clubs, republic flying clubs and motor vehicle, technical, radio and electronics, navy and combined technical schools. Most of them have been established on a very sound base as far as the training facilities, equipment and material they have available. Recent years have begun to see more attention given to the need to equip classrooms with up-to-date materials and equipment for both theoretical and practical laboratory instruction and to building a solid base of field training facilities—motor vehicle test tracks, crane operator training facilities, radio and radar test areas and boat survivability test areas for our navy schools. Training programs have begun to employ more of a variety of training equipment, which will now include automatic simulators.

Additional measures have been prepared and are now being implemented to improve the quality of the training provided specialists for the USSR Armed Forces which take account of the more stringent readiness requirements imposed on members of the Armed Forces. Close cooperation between the defense society and the different services of the Armed Forces, branches of the services, the military districts and fleets, individual military units and the military commissariats is having a positive effect on the quality of the training provided our future fighting men.

The party organizations of our oblast, kray and republic DOSAAF committees have begun to play a more important role in the military-patriotic education of our young people and in the training we provide them in preparation for their service in the Armed Forces. The methods and procedures employed by the party organizations of the Latvian DOSAAF central committee and the Kuybyshev DOSAAF oblast committee are instructive in this regard. The members of these organizations have firmly grasped the fact that a party organization becomes a true fighting organization only when each and every communist is setting a personal example in the effort to improve the quality of the mass defense activities. It comes as no surprise that these organizations are the ones which win the prizes in all-Union socialist competition, that the students and graduates of these schools acquire sound theoretical knowledge and solid practical skills and that, according to reports from their formation, unit and ship commanders, after induction into the armed forces they perform their military duties well, are able to become contributing members of the organization quickly and go on to become rated specialists and skilled, expert soldiers.

The possibilities we have of improving our mass defense efforts are, of course, by no means exhausted. The weak link in a number of our DOSAAF schools remains the quality of the practical training we are providing our young people. The basic military training we give our registrants at our training facilities is all too frequently of poor quality and conducted at only irregular intervals.

The program in which we train young people in mass technical vocations having a practical military application for employment in the national economy is another important component of the DOSAAF mission. This program is important because at one and the same time we are helping to meet the national economy's need for skilled workers and supplying the Armed Forces with a reserve of technically trained specialists.

Our patriotic duty in this anniversary year consists in adding our own worthy contribution to the effort to fulfill plans for the final year of the Eleventh-Five-Year-Plan period, in presenting the country with a new class of highly skilled specialists in the mass technical vocations and in adding to the Armed Forces' reserve of technically trained personnel.

Much remains for our organizations to do in accomplishing the tasks outlined in the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decree "Increase Participation in Physical Culture and Sports." The defense society is charged with providing the leadership in the effort to develop the country's technical and applied military sports which constitute an integral component of the Soviet physical culture movement. And this is as it should be, in view of the fact that these activities condition young people physically, develop will power and good morale in our young men and women, help them learn to think technically, familiarize them with machines and help them master the operation of this equipment. In the final analysis, what all this does is to help an individual, be he in industry or the military, become a more highly skilled worker or an outstanding soldier.

We are now seeing millions involved a variety of technical and applied military sports. The organizational facilities of rayon and city technical sports clubs, the technical sports clubs of large primary organizations and the sports clubs associated with our DOSAAF schools are the main centers of activity. Eighteen federations of technical and applied military sports have been organized and are now functioning on a voluntary basis. Throughout the country we can also find technical sports schools, at which thousands of our young people are learning the techniques of automobile and motorcycle racing, marksmanship, multievent competition in applied military sports, water sports and radio operation.

Together with the trade unions, the Komsomol and sports organizations, the committees of our defense society are taking steps to involve more workers and, most importantly, young people in regularly organized technical-military sports. The 8th Summer Spartakiad of Peoples of the USSR was seen as a review of popular participation in our physical culture movement. Millions of amateur participants in the technical and applied military sports took their places at the starting lines. Many of them turned in very good performances. Soviet athletes also participated successfully in the traditional Friendship Cup competition between the socialist countries and the For Friendship and Brotherhood games.

By decision of the USSR DOSAAF central committee, all all-Union and republic competitions in technical and applied military sports planned for 1984-1985 are being held in honor of the 40th anniversary of the great victory, which will help increase participation in our technical sports programs.

While giving proper credit for past achievements, we should point out at the same time that the state of our defense sports programs and the level to which we have developed our sports do not yet entirely correspond either to what we are capable of or to the needs of our young people. At the cost of participation levels which we would like to see rise, many of our DOSAAF committees are still focusing primarily upon training programs for their all-star teams and the organization of large-scale competitions. They are not giving enough attention to the development of sports programs in the vicinity of the workplace, particularly for activities which do not require great expenditures, complex sports facilities or expensive equipment. We must do everything necessary to make the technical and applied military sports an effective means of training and preparing the Soviet people for both a vocation and defense of the socialist fatherland.

Many DOSAAF organizations owe the progress they have made first and foremost to the increased attention they have received from party and soviet organizations. Party committees are beginning to take a closer look at the way our defense organizations are organizing their activities, playing a more active role in helping to improve their performance and teaching DOSAAF committees how to take an integrated approach to the organization of their activities and to analyze their own performance more self-critically. Particular attention is being given to the selection, assignment and education of personnel. City party committees in Rovno, Brest and Omsk, for example, are regularly discussing problems associated with mass defense and military-patriotic activities at meetings of the bureau, in primary party organizations and at meetings and seminars conducted for party committee and party bureau secretaries. It has become the practice to invite senior officials of our defense society organizations to sessions of soviets of people's deputies and meetings of party administrators and communist officials to plenums of the corresponding party committees. By taking

part in the work of these bodies, our senior DOSAAF officials have an opportunity to develop a clearer view of the general state of affairs throughout the oblast, rayon or enterprise and so can then get a better idea of how their own organizations fit into the overall picture. The most deserving defense organization officials are made members of rayon party committees and serve as deputies of local soviets.

Party officials conduct periodic inspections to monitor implementation of CPSU Central Committee requirements for improvement in DOSAAF organizational performance and closer party supervision and direction of these organizations. Participating in these inspections in addition to party committee officials are representatives of the military commissariats, the trade unions, the Komsomol and military units and automobile, communications and sports specialists.

A number of other steps are also being taken to insure better-quality performance in complying with party and government requirements concerning mass defense activities and to invigorate DOSAAF organizational activity. It is thanks to this kind of concern on the part of the party that the activities of our defense society organizations have become more focused and effective.

USSR DOSAAF organizations have participated in the socialist competition under the slogan "A worthy contribution to the effort to increase the defense capability of the motherland!" and have begun intensive preparations for the historic 40th anniversary of the great victory. Closing ranks with the party of Lenin, the members of our defense society along with all Soviet people are honoring the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War with new achievements in mass defense activities and in military-patriotic educational programs for workers and adding their own worthy contribution to the military and economic strength of the socialist motherland.

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MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

LT GEN SEREBRYAKOV DISCUSSES MILITARY-POLITICAL SCHOOLING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Feb 85 p 4

[Article by Lt Gen V. Serebryakov: "For Those Who Want to Become Political Officers"]

[Text] At the Request of Our Readers

Dear Editor!

Please tell who the higher military-political schools train and what rules govern acceptance this year.

A. Omel'yanchik,
10th Grade student, Secondary School No 149

Similar requests to the editors were made by Sergeant G. Flyagin, Senior Seaman A. Prokhorov, Seaman Yu. Chaplin and others.

At the request of the editors, Lt Gen V. Serebryakov, chief of the cadres administration, Main Political Administration of the Soviet Army and Navy answers the readers' questions.

"The Higher military-political schools provide higher military-political education for political officers of all Armed Services and branches of arms. The Lvov Higher Military-Political School provides higher military-political education for political officers who will be cultural and educational workers and military journalists. The period of schooling is four years. Graduates are awarded the military rank of lieutenant and are given an All-Union Higher Education diploma.

"The requirements for officer training are constantly increasing in connection with the greater complexity of the tasks accomplished by the Armed Forces. Taking this into account, this year the procedure for selecting young people for military educational institutions, including higher military-political schools, has somewhat changed. All entrants undergo professional selection in their troop units, military commissariats or military educational institutions, the main purpose of which is to assess the social-political

activeness, professional and moral qualities, state of health and general educational level of the candidates. During the course of professional selection, the candidates' aptitudes and abilities, psychological information and physical readiness for study and subsequent army and navy service in political duty positions are brought out.

Warrant officers and extended service personnel (after two years of service in these positions); obligated service personnel and military construction workers (after one year of service); former obligated service personnel after they have been released into the reserves; graduates of the Suvorov military schools and the Nakhimov naval schools, as well as civilian young people from among komsomol activists and public spirited youth, or those having a work history are eligible for acceptance into higher military-political schools. All entrants must be CPSU members, CPSU candidate members or komsomol members and be recommended by the appropriate army and navy political organs, CPSU raykoms (gorkoms) or komsomol raykoms (gorkoms).

Warrant officers, extended service personnel and reservists up to 23 years of age and obligated service personnel and civilian young people from 17 to 21 years old, who are suitable from a health standpoint for service as officers, are accepted for study. All entrants must have complete secondary education.

Servicemen expressing a desire to study in military-political schools submit a request through command channels before 1 May of the year of entry. Civilian youth and reservists submit a statement to the rayon (city) military commissariat at their place of residence before 1 June. Attached to the request (statement) are: the recommendation of the political organ, CPSU raykom (gorkom) or komsomol raykom (gorkom); an autobiography; party or komsomol reference; reference from place of work or study (in the established form); copy of the document on secondary education (for secondary school students, a certificate of ongoing academic success); three certified photographs (without head-gear; 4.5 x 6 cm in size); and the record of service card (for servicemen).

The work of professional selection is carried out by acceptance commissions in higher military-political schools from 10-30 July of the year of entry, and in some cases for servicemen, by out-of-town reception commissions from 5-25 June.

Entrants pass entrance examinations in Russian language and literature (written), geography, USSR history and mathematics. In the Lvov Higher Military-Political School, instead of the exam in mathematics, an oral exam in Russian language and literature is passed and an interview about the selected specialty is conducted.

During the time of their study in the schools, future officers study Marxist-Leninist theory, master profound professional and military-technical knowledge and acquire skills in the political and military upbringing of personnel. After completion of the higher military-political schools, graduates are assigned to officers' duties. Young political officers worthily continue the glorious traditions of the legendary commissars and politruks [political

commissars]. Along with commanders, they ensure high combat readiness of the subunits, units and ships and ably bring up the troops in the spirit of devotion to the Communist Party and the socialist homeland and readiness to defend her.

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MILITARY HISTORY

DOCUMENTS, PRESS ITEMS ON 'LIBERATION' OF HUNGARY, POLAND

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 22, Nov 84 (signed to press 5 Nov 84) pp 43-45

[Article: "History Bears Witness"]

[Text] The editors are continuing publication of documents from the collection, "Liberating Mission of the Soviet Armed Forces in Europe in the Second World War," which is to be published next year by the military publishing house. The documents in this group are devoted to the liberation of Hungary and Poland by Soviet forces.

PROCLAMATION BY THE RED ARMY COMMAND TO THE POPULATION OF THE LIBERATED TERRITORY OF HUNGARY

Army in the Field

No earlier than October 1944

Hungarians!

The troops of the Red Army, pursuing the enemy, have entered your land.

The Red Army entered Hungary not pursuing objectives of acquiring any part of Hungarian territory or changing the social system existing in Hungary.

The entry of Soviet forces into Hungarian territory is caused exclusively by military need and the continuing resistance of German forces and military units of Hungary, Germany's ally.

The Red Army is fulfilling the order of its Supreme High Command to pursue enemy forces until their complete defeat and capitulation.

The Hitlerite invaders and their Hungarian underlings frighten you about the Red Army's arrival in Hungary, but you have nothing to fear.

The Red Army has entered Hungary not as a conqueror, but as a liberator of the Hungarian people from the German Fascist yoke.

It has no aims other than to defeat the enemy German armies and destroy the rule of Hitlerite Germany in the countries which it has enslaved.

Soviet military authorities do not intend to break down Hungarian procedures and introduce their own procedures in the areas which it occupies.

Private property of citizens remains inviolable and is protected by Soviet military authorities.

All local organizations of authority and civil administration existing before the arrival of the Red Army are retained.

Citizens!

The Red Army command calls upon you to observe law and order and to fulfill precisely the wartime regime established by Soviet military authorities.

Remain in your places and continue your peaceful labor!

Ensure the uninterrupted functioning of industrial, trade, communal and other enterprises and institutions!

Peasants! Calmly continue agricultural work!

Workers and artisans! Courageously go to your machines in the factories and shops!

Tradesmen and employers! Fearlessly continue with your work!

Officials! Provide for the normal functioning of all institutions and organs of administration!

The clergy and believers may carry out their religious rites without hindrance.

Hungarians!

Hitler's Germany has lost the war. The situation of the German Fascist Army is hopeless. It is on the eve of annihilation.

By cooperating with the Red Army in every way you will hasten the final defeat of the German Fascist Army. Thereby you will bring closer the hour of the war's end on your soil and the hour in which the German occupiers are completely chased out of your country.

RED ARMY COMMAND

FROM THE POLITICAL REPORT BY A MEMBER OF THE MILITARY COUNCIL,
40TH ARMY, 2D UKRAINIAN FRONT ON THE SITUATION IN HUNGARY

Army in the Field

5 December 1944

The population of the city is reacting well to the Red Army. Instances when the Hungarian population asks at the commandant's office to take wine for the Red Army are indicative of this. And not only wine, but also other things, like a motor and a vehicle for communicable disease treatment, saying: "We are giving these to the Russians because they are fighting justly. They have proven their love for the people and we respect them for the fact that they are liberating the enslaved peoples of Europe." It is interesting to note the fact that when firing on the city started the population began to meet at the military commandant's office, saying that if the Germans enter the city they will depart along with the Russians.

TELEGRAM FROM RED ARMY CHIEF OF THE REAR TO THE COMMANDING GENERAL, 3D UKRAINIAN FRONT ON DELIVERY TO THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT OF FUELS AND OILS FOR THE SOWING CAMPAIGN

Moscow

17 May 1945

In fulfillment of USSR Council of People's Commissars Order No 7725 of 7 March 1945 on delivery to the Hungarian government of fuel and oils for the sowing campaign, I ask that you transfer from the current output of the oil distillation plants being operated by the front, to representatives of the Hungarian government, 3,465 tons of kerosene, using the necessary amount of V -20 additive required to manufacture tractor kerosene.

Khrulev

FROM AN ARTICLE IN PRAVDA, "TO WARSAW," ON THE POLISH POPULATION'S MEETING WITH RED ARMY SOLDIERS

Moscow

2 August 1944

to the approaches to the Polish capital in real triumph. The population of the Polish cities and villages met the soldiers, officers and generals of the Red Army joyfully and with a feeling of profound gratitude. In the faces of the Red Army soldiers the Poles see their liberators from the hated German invaders, who over the course of five years mocked Poland and mercilessly exploited the workers.

Crowds of people stand for days on the roads along which the regiments are walking. They greet our tankers and infantrymen with bouquets of flowers and treat them with fruit. In Lublin, Demblin, Pulawi and Garwolin such meetings turned into improvised demonstrations.

The Polish population and Polish administration are cooperating actively and closely with the Red Army command. The Poles help the attackers to hunt out Germans fleeing in panic in the forests and fields, and repair bridges and roads. Polish partisans also give considerable help to the attackers.

The Poles remember well and will never forget the monstrous evil deeds of the Hitlerites in Poland. The sons of Poland will never forget the Fascist factories of death, in which the Gestapo committed to the flames hundreds of thousands of peaceful citizens; the Lublin prison where in the last few days alone the Germans shot up to a thousand Poles, or the hundreds of persons hanged in Warsaw, Krakow and Poznan. Revenge beats in the hearts of the Poles and they burn with desire to enter the ranks of the Polish Forces, which are fighting side by side with the heroic Red Army.

LETTER OF GREETING BY THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF SANDOMIR, SENT TO THE SOLDIERS OF THE RED ARMY IN CONNECTION WITH THE 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT OCTOBER SOCIALIST REVOLUTION

Sandomir

7 November 1944

We the residents of the Polish city of Sandomir, having gathered in a meeting in honor of the 27th Anniversary of the Great October Revolution in the USSR, send a heartfelt greeting and express our gratitude to the glorious Red Army for liberating us Poles from the hated German Fascist boot. We did not lose hope for liberation. And the Red Army brought us this liberation and gave us the hand of fraternal assistance. We are enraptured by the power and might of the Red Army, which carries on its banners freedom for all enslaved peoples.

Over the course of two years the Red Army conducted unprecedented offensive battles, chased out the German Fascist cut-throats from the borders of the Soviet Union and is now helping the other Slavic peoples to throw off the damnable yoke of Fascism.

We are confident that the Red Army, together with the Polish Forces, will finish off the Fascist beast in his own lair.

Long live the Red Army and the fraternal alliance of the Polish Forces with Soviet forces!

Adopted at a meeting of the residents of Sandomir
1000 people present

TASS REPORT ON THE PRESENTATION OF FOOD TO THE POPULATION OF WARSAW BY THE
SOVIET REPUBLICS

Moscow

27 January 1945

The Soviet people heard with tremendous joy the report of the liberation of the capital of our allied democratic Poland -- the city of Warsaw -- by the heroic Red Army with participation of the Polish Forces.

The German Fascist barbarians brought innumerable calamities to the Polish people, shot millions of Poles and plundered and destroyed the capital of Poland. The Red Army has liberated a large portion of the territory of the friendly Polish Republic and freed the Polish people from the bloody yoke of the German Fascist invaders.

As a symbol of friendship with the Polish people, and to provide immediate assistance with food to the population of liberated Warsaw, the Soviet republics are sending to Warsaw 60,000 tons of grain from their own resources, including 15,000 tons from the Ukrainian SSR; 10,000 tons from the Belorussian SSR; 5,000 tons from the Lithuanian SSR; and 30,000 tons from the RSFSR. All this grain is given to the population of Warsaw free of charge.

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FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

NATO USE OF UNDERWATER SABOTAGE TEAMS TO SUPPORT LANDINGS

Moscow VOYENNIYE ZNANIYA in Russian No 11, Nov 84 (Signed to press 8 Oct 84)
p 46

[Article by Capt 1st Rank I. Kosikov: "Anti-Sabotage Shore Defense"]

[Text] According to views of American specialists, underwater sabotage teams will play an important role in preparing for and conducting landing operations, by reconnoitering fords, water obstacles, approach routes to bases, anti-landing obstacles, etc. They recommend building a system of anti-landing defense in areas of naval bases and strategically important coastal sectors, taking into account the danger of sabotage from the sea.

A special place in the overall system of defense against sabotage is allotted to detecting frogmen, measures to defend against their penetration to targets and means and methods of destroying saboteurs who have been detected.

The foreign press notes that the most effective means of detecting underwater saboteurs are electronic and aerial means of searching for small underwater and surface objects. However, testing has shown that no radar can detect a frogman swimming at a depth of 10 meters, even if he approaches the surface of the water. Highly sensitive hydroacoustic stations also cannot always take direction-finding bearings on such a frogman. Therefore, the NATO countries have begun intensive development of entire systems, with the help of which coastal sectors will be able to be protected against penetration by sabotage teams.

A mobile passive special hydroacoustical station has been developed in Britain, designed to protect ports at military naval bases, hydraulic structures and other facilities against underwater saboteurs. The system can also be used to protect underwater drilling platforms, hydroelectric power station dams, bridges, underwater cables and entrances to fjords and channels.

The NATO naval command is also trying to use such means as ultra-small submarines and special groups of frogmen, so-called counter-saboteurs, to search for underwater saboteurs. Specially developed ultra-small submarines [SMPL] are intended for patrolling, guarding and inspecting important hydraulic structures while accomplishing tasks of combatting underwater saboteurs. The Swedish CGS type is an example of such an SMPL. Its water

displacement is 60 tons (surface) and 70 tons (under water). Its greatest underwater speed is 9 knots, underwater range is 100 miles, operational depth of submergence is 100 meters and it carries a crew of 6. Besides hydroacoustic and radar equipment the submarine is equipped with a television search system and five searchlights for visual observation of the underwater environment.

The foreign press notes that besides underwater reconnaissance, aerial reconnaissance is one of the most important types of support to anti-sabotage actions. Helicopters are used for this which, in the opinion of Western specialists, can accomplish such tasks as searching for means of delivery of saboteurs, detecting the moment they disembark their carrier craft, reconnoitering assumed landing places for frogmen and assembly areas for sabotage groups and observing the movement of saboteurs if detected. Moreover, helicopters are capable of countering by fire the action of enemy helicopters and landing craft which are landing sabotage groups, as occurred in the Anglo-Argentine conflict in the South Atlantic.

To protect against sabotage of underwater cable communication lines, NATO countries use special self-propelled underwater apparatuses, the crews of which conduct reconnaissance and determine the condition of underwater communications lines, and in the event that enemy frogmen are detected, engage them in combat or report them to the shore observation post.

Anti-torpedo and anti-sabotage nets (barrier and signal); mobile active hydroacoustic stations; laser and television underwater viewing apparatuses and ship floating equipment are used to protect individual major facilities at the water line and important hydraulic structures. Groups for combat against underwater saboteurs are also used.

Various protective signal systems are set up on the coast, especially in an area of naval bases, which employ radars, television equipment which operates under low levels of illumination and various sensors which react to the physical fields of moving underwater objects. Various enclosures are widely used. For example, an anti-sabotage barrier using barbed wire has been developed in the FRG. An electric current is run through an insulated wire. An alarm signal is turned on if the wire is damaged or cut. The barrier can be made as a wire fence or in a spiral. Some enclosures are fitted with electronic systems for warning that they have been negotiated or damaged.

At a shoreline with entrances into straits or fjords, wire barriers are combined with anti-sabotage nets and comprise a single system of protection against penetration of underwater saboteurs. Floating barriers used as technical means to combat sea pollution during oil spills can be used along with anti-torpedo nets to protect individual floating objects.

Guard posts (stationary and mobile) and patrols (vehicular and foot) with portable and transportable radars, night vision devices and guard dogs also guard the shore against penetration of underwater saboteurs.

Since the main tactical characteristic of saboteurs is surprise, anti-sabotage shore defense, in the opinion of foreign military specialists, must be

organized in important sectors which represent the most "enticing" targets for sabotage. On the whole, considering the large expanse of shore being protected, where landing of saboteurs simultaneously in several places with favorable terrain conditions is possible, it is felt that anti-sabotage defense should be mobile and have the mission of destroying saboteurs not only at the landing places, but also to a considerable distance from the shore.

Widespread use of mining is envisioned to strengthen anti-sabotage obstacles. The use of mines slows and impedes the conduct of reconnaissance, landing and movement of sabotage groups and especially their negotiation of barriers and obstacles. Foreign specialists emphasize that minefields can minimize surprise, a main factor of PDS [underwater sabotage forces] tactics. American specialists devote great attention to mining the most important shore areas, where landings are most likely to occur. Water landing areas and shore lines are mined. As is known, when underwater saboteurs reach the shore they seek suitable shelters for changing clothes and stowing underwater equipment. In the opinion of foreign specialists, these places should be mined as a first priority.

Small contact and non-contact naval mines are put out at depths up to 50 meters to destroy ultra-small submarines, landing transports and other underwater means of transport. Directional M18A1 Claymore type high explosive or high explosive fragmentation anti-personnel mines are used to mine the shore.

If the sea floor inclines sharply, contact mines are emplaced very near the shore and chains and cables are stretched between buried pilings. If the incline is gradual, mined posts, metallic and reinforced concrete obstacles, cribworks, cross pieces, rock embankments and other obstacles are emplaced under the water.

Multiple rocket launchers are one of the most effective means of combatting PDS. They make it possible to destroy individual and group targets on the shore and in shallow water quickly, at any time of day and under various weather conditions.

The 30 tube RWK007 launch platform developed by the Swiss firm (Erlikon) is an example of such a system. It is designed to fire 81 mm unguided "Dira" rocket rounds to a range of 8.7 km. It has a rotating turret launch platform in which two clusters of tube rocket launchers (15 each), traversing and elevating mechanisms and a control panel are mounted. Firing is carried out by one member of the crew (gunner), who is located inside the armored turret.

The RWK007 launch platform can be deployed on any means of surface transport. Its weight is 1,460 kg; elevation angular limits are from -10 to +50 degrees; minimum range is 2.5 km; salvo duration is 6 seconds and time of rearming is 3 minutes.

The 81 mm round has a solid propellant one-stage motor, warhead and hinged fin assembly which stabilizes the round in flight by revolving (up to 3,000 revolutions per minute).

The warhead (weight of the explosive charge is 2.2 kg) is equipped with a proximity fuse. A warhead equipped with a smoke generating and phosphorous composition can be used for target indication and ranging.

As the foreign press notes, depth charges, fuse charges, explosive cartridges, grenades and small arms may be used widely to combat underwater saboteurs.

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AFGHANISTAN

GUERRILLA LEADER CHANGES SIDES

Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 12, Mar 85 pp 28-30

[Article by Herman Ustinov]

[Excerpts] There is an old Eastern saying that if the world is an oyster, Herat is the pearl in it. Walking along Herat's ancient streets, visiting its lively bazaars, gazing in admiration at the minarets of the Jami mosque, looking down from the tower of an ancient fortress built for protection against the hordes of Genghis Khan, one is keenly aware that the building of this city was a labour of love. Herat is truly the pearl of Afghanistan in an eternally green setting of old avenues and parks.

The residence of the governor of Herat Province is located in one of these parks. It also serves as a guest house for visitors from Kabul. This time the distinguished visitors were two deputy premiers of the Republic, Abdul Majd Sarboland, who had come for the opening of the Herat Television Centre, and Goldad, whose mission was to observe on the spot the progress of the land and water reform in the province. Accompanying Goldad were Minister of Agriculture and Land Reform Dr Abdul Ghaffar Lakanwal and Minister of Irrigation Ahmad Shah Sorkhabi. For my part, I was here to look up three acquaintances of mine, Turan Rasul, young Khatra and her husband Matin, whom I had met on a previous visit to Herat.

Two Captains

Turan is not a name, it is a military rank equivalent to Captain. But

for all who know or have heard of Rasul, the "Turan" is so much part of his personality and character as to have become virtually his proper name.

In the spring of 1983 a jirga (assembly) of former leaders of dushman detachments who had come over to the side of the people's government was held in the Afghan capital. They rose one after another to tell for all to hear (the proceedings of the jirga were broadcast over radio and television) what had prompted them to oppose the revolution, what was their guilt before the people, and why they had decided to renounce their previous mistaken views and to enter the service of the Democratic Republic. And the first to make his confession in the hall of the National Fatherland Front was Turan Rasul.

He had been called Captain for several years, although he had never served in the army or attended military school. The son of a peasant, he had had only an elementary schooling, but had stood out among youngsters of his own age in Guzara District for his keen mind and his courage. Perhaps that is why in 1979 he was elected at the age of 30 to head the district and later as chief of a tribe of 100,000 living in the vicinity of Herat.

The foreign-based reactionary Islamic Party of Afghanistan (IPA) evinced much interest in the young leader. Emissaries of IPA boss

Gulbuddin Khakmatyar began to haunt Guzara. Money, arms and subversive literature poured in. "Islam is in danger! Overthrow the infidel regime! Defend the honour of your wives which the Marxists would defile!" the tribesmen were exhorted. And the ignorant, illiterate peasants who for decades had recognized no authority whatever took to arms. It was then that their young leader came to be called Captain.

The leaders of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries ensconced in Pakistan and Iran continued their "patronage" of the tribe. Several hundred men from Guzara and neighbouring villages were given military training at camps outside Afghanistan. At Gulbuddin's suggestion Rasul was chosen to lead the IPA in Herat Province.

"We fought the republic with weapons and the spoken word, and we expected it to fall any day," Rasul said at the jirga in Kabul. "But we saw that in spite of the tremendous difficulties, the revolution was gradually gaining ground, winning ever greater support among the people. And we began to see that we were fighting for an unjust cause. The decree issued on the initiative of Babrak Karmal granting amnesty to all who voluntarily laid down arms enabled us to embark on the right path."

The decision to support the government was taken at a meeting of tribal elders. The overwhelming majority were in favour—people were tired of fighting not knowing what they were fighting for; they wanted to work the land, to raise cattle, and bring up their children. But there were also contrary voices. "This amnesty," some said, "is a deception. All governments are alike." "The rifle is a better provider than the land," others declared. Rasul's mother beat her head against roadside boulders fearing that if her son went to Herat to give himself up his relatives would never see him again.

The republic honours its commitments. The tribesmen were given a chance to till their land in peace. They were left the weapons needed to defend themselves against dushman raids. A 400-man detachment

for the defence of the revolution was formed. Needless to say, it was headed by Rasul, who was now officially given the rank of Captain.

It was at this time that I made the acquaintance of Turan Rasul. And now we were again sitting over a cup of fragrant green tea in the office of chief of the Herat Security Department. Rasul's detachment frequently goes out on dangerous reconnaissance missions in the enemy rear, to track down dushman strongpoints and to uncover arms caches. The Captain is now very much at home in this office where he had once come to give himself up.

I found him looking just the same as when I had seen him last. As before, he had a slight stoop as if embarrassed by his tallness, as before, he stroked his luxuriant moustache from time to time. True, two deep furrows had appeared on his forehead. The dushmans, having sworn on the Koran to take revenge on Rasul, had abducted his wife and had trapped and murdered two of his deputies. Fifteen members of his detachment had been killed in

clashes with counterrevolutionaries.

"We have carried out some 50 combat operations in the past period," Rasul said. "The peace and tranquillity of Guzara District is our responsibility."

"Yes, Turan Ismail's bands won't risk coming this way any more," Dostagir, assistant security chief for the province, grinned.

The name was a familiar one. Turan Ismail, properly Ismail Khan, is another Herat captain, but with a record altogether different from Rasul's. He is 38 years of age, was also born in Herat Province, and finished a military school in Kabul. In 1979, with the rank of captain, he was in command of a battalion of the Herat Division. He took a hostile attitude to the revolution from the outset, and soon openly joined the camp of its enemies. He has been fighting against his people for more than five years now.

A member of the counterrevolutionary Islamic Society of Afghanistan, he is in command of all of the organization's bands in Herat Province. The Pakistan-based head of this émigré organization, Earhanuddin Rabbani, conferred on him the

title of "leader of the Herat Emirate." Ismail is cruel and fanatical, he is always escorted by a 40-man bodyguard and he makes a point of never stopping in any village longer than overnight. His men plant mines on roads, blow up bridges, attack government institutions and militia posts and hunt down People's Democratic Party activists.

"Turan Rasul has engaged those bands in battle on several occasions," Dostagir said. "And Ismail has suffered heavy losses. They say he cannot bear even to hear the name of our Rasul mentioned."

"But that is nothing to boast about," Rasul put in. "Until Ismail Khan is not put out of the running there will be no peace in our province."

It is reported that not long ago Ismail returned from Iran, where he had recruited refugees as replacements for his bands, bought arms and obtained financial aid. Thus, he clearly has no intention of laying down arms, even though the ground is literally burning under his feet.

Turan Rasul, too, has been abroad. His first foreign trip he made as a member of the official Afghan delegation to the World Assembly for Peace and Life, Against Nuclear War held in Prague, and on the way back he visited Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev.

"I saw the new world," he told me, describing the wealth of impressions he brought back. "And I realized better than ever what we are fighting for. I shall devote all my energies to this struggle. And even if I have to lay down my life it will be for the people's cause...."

Awakening the Land

For several days now the Goldad group had been making a thorough study of the progress of the land and water reform in the province. Your correspondent attended a meeting at which Kadir Miakhel, commissioner of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan in the north-western zone of the country (which besides Herat includes the provinces of Badghis and Ghor), Fakir Ahmad,

the governor of Herat, and the chiefs of the provincial agricultural and land improvement boards gave the officials from Kabul a picture of the situation.

Following the proceedings of the meeting, I could clearly see what was the main concern of both guests and hosts. Implementation of the agrarian reform in the localities must be rational and expedient to the maximum. There must be no formalism whatever. What point would there be, for instance, in distributing the bey's land in places where stable security for the farmers had not yet been ensured? The peasant could plant wheat and in the autumn the former owner could turn up with a band of cutthroats and seize the harvest and perhaps kill the new owner. There have been many such cases here in Herat Province as well.

Or take a problem of another kind. The head of a district reports that the land belonging to the local feudal landowner has been distributed among the peasant families in full conformity with the law—six hectares per household. But in the autumn it turns out that practically the entire crop from this land has found its way again into the granaries of the old owner. For the simple reason that the land allotments were given to his near and distant relatives.

"Formerly we tried to carry out the reform quickly," Fakir Ahmad said. "And we made a good many mistakes. Now we go about it more slowly and thoughtfully. The deeds to the land are issued by special committees which carefully study the situation on the spot, counselling with the elders in each village. No decision is taken until there is absolute certainty that the recipient is fully entitled to the allotment and is in a position to cultivate it. And although the pace is not high—in January, for instance, only 126 deeds were issued in the province—the results are more substantial."

"What is particularly important," Goldad stressed, "is that the reform should unite the peasants, not disunite them. It must promote the collective spirit in the countryside. People have to learn to defend the land they have received, more self-defence detachments should be formed in

the villages where the redistribution of land has taken place, and the organization of peasant cooperatives encouraged."

The water situation in the province is complicated. It has 30,000 hectares of dry-farming land and only 19,000 hectares under irrigation. The climate in these parts is hot and dry, rains are infrequent. Hence it is necessary to build up-to-date irrigation systems capable of ensuring an adequate water supply. State plans provide for 32 irrigation projects, 27 of which involve the continuation of the construction and

modernization of existing major water power and irrigation systems and five are new ones.

Included in these five is the Salme irrigation system now under construction in Herat Province. It is designed to provide water for 34,000 hectares of already irrigated land and 40,000 hectares of land to be brought under irrigation. This is an up-to-date engineering project costing several billion afghanis. When completed, it will provide water for farm fields not only in Herat Province but also in neighbouring areas.

While the peasants are eagerly waiting for water, the counterrevolutionaries have made the Salme development a target of attack. Half a year ago the nearly completed project was raided by a large force which destroyed many installations,

wrecked machinery, blew up the houses built for the construction and operating personnel, killed three Party members and abducted a large number of people. Work on the project was brought to a standstill.

The future of the Salme project was also discussed at the above-mentioned conference. Both the representatives of the government and the local authorities were agreed that it must be completed.

"But you will have to provide far more reliable protection," Sorkhabi said, turning to Miakhel.

After the meeting we all went to the Herat irrigation equipment base, where we viewed powerful Soviet-made trucks and heavy-duty bulldozers, scrapers, tractors and cranes. All ready to go into action. On re-

turning to Kabul, the Goldad group will propose to the government that work on the Salme project be resumed. The Herat land will be given a new lease of life.

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